

**SONY**

---

**PCV-V300G**

---

**MODEL**

---

**USER MANUAL**

---

# Getting Started

Congratulations on your purchase of the Sony VAIO® computer! Your new, high-performance, multimedia computer combines state-of-the-art computer functionality with the latest audio, video and information technology features.

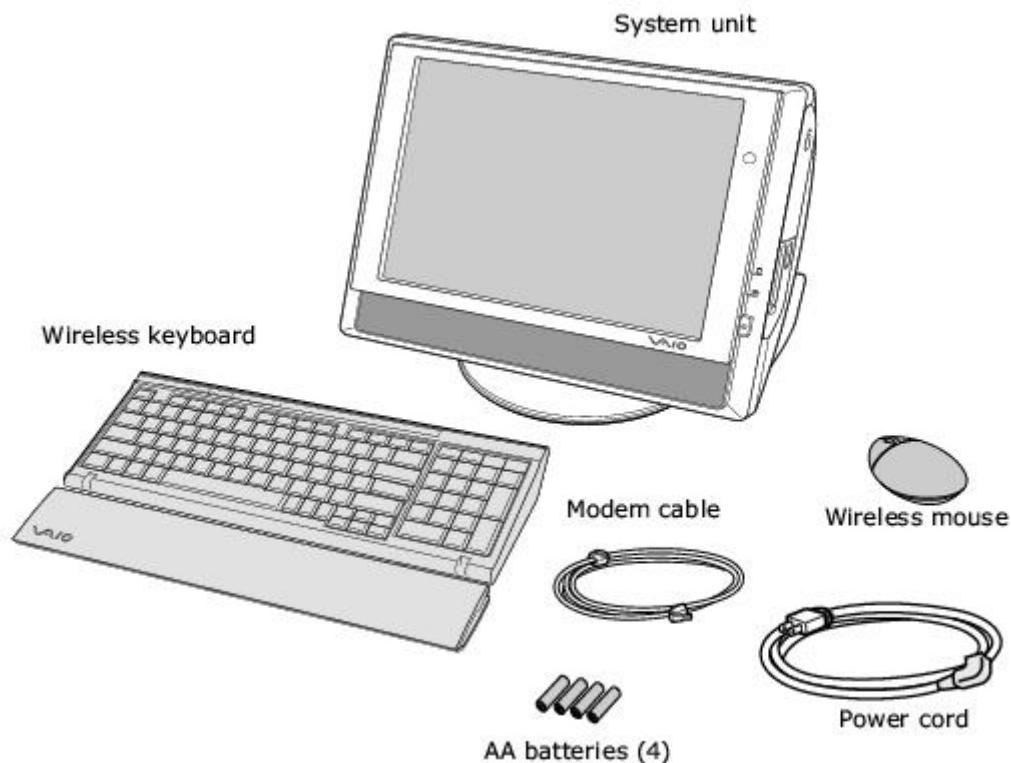
- | [Unpacking Your Computer](#)
- | [Planning An Ergonomic Work Space](#)

## Unpacking Your Computer

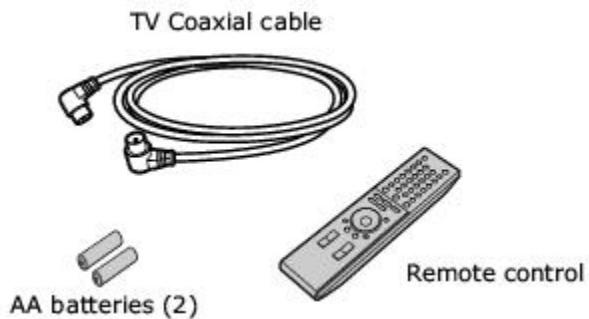
Your computer may not be supplied with all of the accessories shown, depending on the system configuration you purchased. For details on the accessories supplied with your computer, go to the Sony Online Support Web site at <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport>, to view the online specifications sheet.

- | Your VAIO® computer is not supplied with System or Application Recovery CDs. Use the VAIO Recovery Wizard utility program to recover your computer's operating system and preinstalled software.

Computer and supplied accessories



Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder accessories  
(For models equipped with Giga Pocket features)



## Manuals

- | **VAIO® Computer Quick Start** — Provides basic information on setting up and registering your computer. The Quick Start also provides resources for technical support, safety guidelines, and owner's information.

## Online Documentation

- | **VAIO® Computer User Guide** — Contains information on the hardware and preinstalled software programs included with your system.

To access the online User Guide:

1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, then click **Help and Support**.
  2. From the **VAIO Help and Support Center** menu, click **VAIO User Guide**.
- | **Specifications** — This online specifications sheet describes the hardware and software configuration of your VAIO computer. Go to the Sony Online Support Web site at <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport> to view the specifications sheet.
  - | **VAIO® Software** — Provides specific information about the preinstalled software on your computer.

To access this online software information:

1. Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar.
2. Click **Welcome to VAIO life**.

## Hard Disk Drive Recovery

Your computer is equipped with the VAIO Recovery Wizard, a utility program that recovers your computer's operating system and preinstalled software.

For more information about hard disk recovery

1. Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar, then click **Help and Support**.
2. From the **VAIO Help and Support Center** menu, click **VAIO Recovery Options**.

## Other

A software library containing the Microsoft® software and Sony® end-user license agreements.

# Planning An Ergonomic Work Space

Before you set up your new computer, find the best location for your new computer and plan your work space. There are several ergonomic factors to consider when you arrange your work space:

- | **Stable work surface** — Use a stable work surface large enough to support the computer and other peripheral equipment.
- | **Ventilation** — Leave at least eight inches of space on both sides of your computer and at least 5 inches of clearance for the back.
- | **Placement of the mouse, keyboard, and other input devices** — Place your computer, mouse, or other input devices so that your arms and hands are in a relaxed, comfortable position. The computer's keyboard should be directly in front of you. Keep your wrists in a relaxed position when you are using the keyboard — not angled up or down. Position the mouse at the same level as the keyboard. Hold the mouse with a relaxed hand, and use your whole arm to move it. Take occasional breaks during sessions with your computer, as excessive use of the mouse, keyboard, or joystick may strain muscles or tendons.
- | **Furniture and posture** — Sit in a chair with good back support and armrests. Adjust the level of the chair so your feet are flat on the floor. A footrest may make you more comfortable. Sit with relaxed, upright posture — avoid slouching forward or leaning far backward.
- | **Viewing angle of the display** — Position the unit so that the display is 18 to 26 inches directly in front of you, with the top of the screen at or a little below eye level. Use the display's tilting feature to find the best position. You can reduce eye strain and muscle fatigue by placing the display in the proper position.
- | **Lighting** — Choose a location where windows and lights do not create glare and reflection on the display. Use indirect lighting to avoid bright spots on the display. You can also purchase accessories for your display that help reduce glare. Proper lighting adds to your comfort and work effectiveness.

- | The infrared receiver, located on the front panel of your computer, communicates with the Giga Pocket® remote control. The infrared receiver must be visible in a line-of-sight with your remote control in order to function properly.

# Locating Controls and Ports

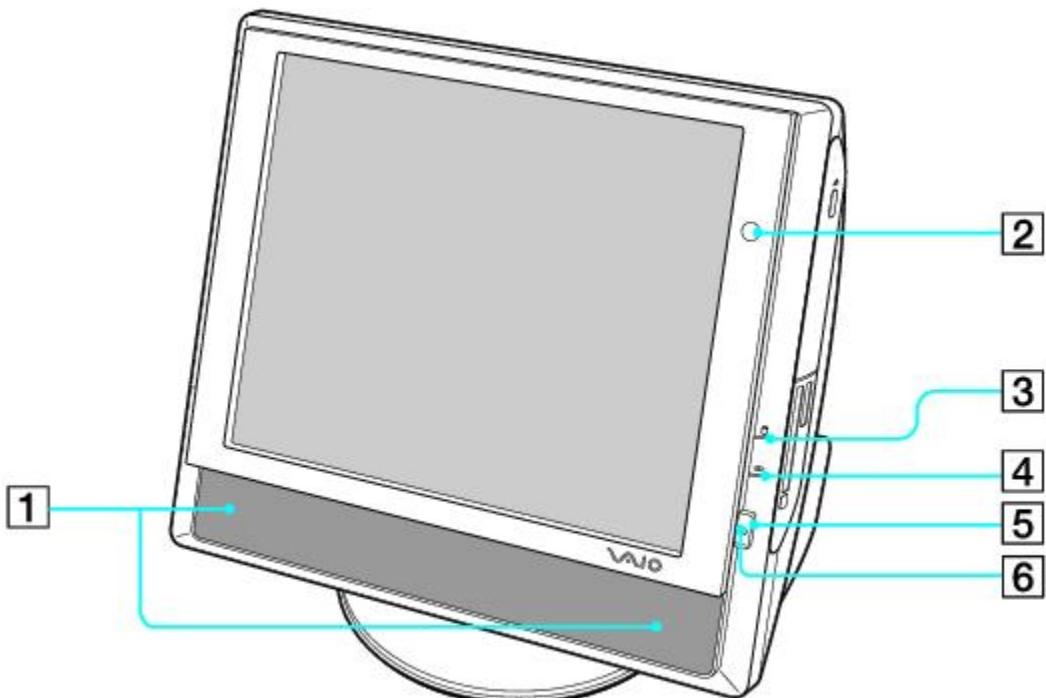
This section is intended to familiarize you with the controls, ports, and jacks on your computer. Your computer may not be equipped with all of the hardware features described, and the location of the controls, ports, and jacks, may vary from the illustrations shown in this section. See the specifications sheet for your computer on the Sony Online Support Web site at <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport>.

- | [About the Front Panel](#)
- | [About the Side Panels](#)
- | [About the Back Panel](#)
- | [About the Keyboard](#)
- | [About the Mouse](#)
- | [About the Remote Control](#)

## About the Front Panel

The front panel of your VAIO® computer is equipped with indicator lights and built-in speakers.

Front panel



<b>1</b>	<b>Stereo speakers (built-in)</b> The stereo speakers provide sound for software, audio, and video media.
<b>2</b>	<b>Infrared receiver</b> Enables communication with the Giga Pocket® remote control <sup>1</sup> , to turn on TV, change TV channels, and raise or lower volume.

<b>3</b>	<b>Optical disc and hard disk drive access indicator</b> Light is amber while reading and writing data.
<b>4</b>	<b>Memory Stick® media access indicator</b> Light is amber when the Memory Stick media slot is in use.
<b>5</b>	<b>Power button</b> Press the power button in from the right side, to turn the computer on and off.
<b>6</b>	<b>Power indicator</b> Light is green while the power is on and amber when the computer is in Stand by mode.

<sup>1</sup> The remote control is supplied with models that are equipped with Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder features.

 Press the power button in from the right side only, to avoid damage to this control.

## Handling the attached LCD monitor

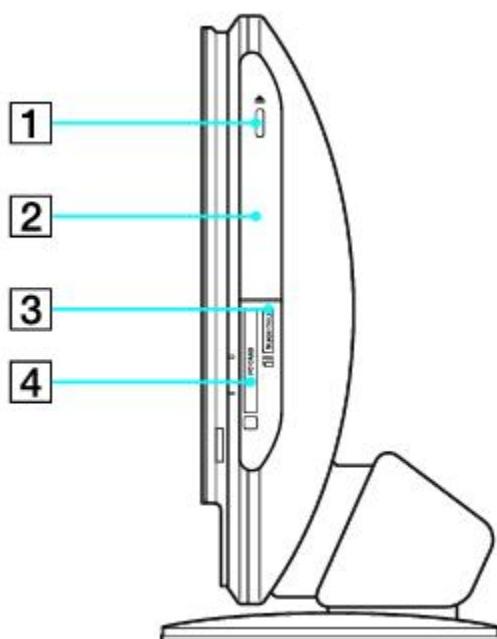
Your VAIO® computer has an attached LCD monitor. Handle the monitor carefully when adjusting the viewing angle.

1. Grasp both sides of the monitor firmly.
2. Tilt the monitor backwards, to the desired viewing angle.

## About the Side Panels

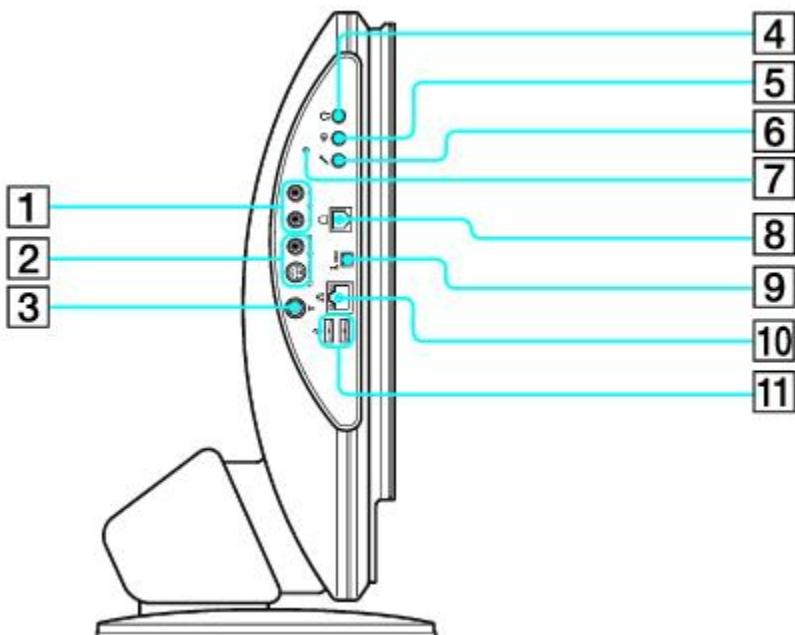
The side panels of your computer provide the connections for supplied and optional accessories. The icons on the side panel help you locate and identify the appropriate jack or port.

Right panel



<b>1</b>	<b>Optical drive eject button</b> Ejects a disc from the optical drive.
<b>2</b>	<b>Optical drive</b> See the online specifications sheet for optical drive information.
<b>3</b>	<b>Memory Stick® media slot</b> Reads and writes data from and to a Memory Stick media.
<b>4</b>	<b>PC Card slot</b> A PC card (PCMCIA card) can be inserted into this slot to increase your computer's functional capabilities.

Left panel



<b>1</b>	<b>Composite audio L In jack<sup>1</sup></b> Connection for an audio cable (optional). <b>Composite audio R In jack<sup>1</sup></b> Connection for an audio cable (optional).
<b>2</b>	<b>Composite video In jack<sup>1</sup></b> Connection for a video cable (optional). <b>S-video In jack<sup>1</sup></b> Connection for an S-video cable (optional).
<b>3</b>	<b>VHF/UHF port<sup>1</sup></b> Connection for a TV coaxial cable (supplied).
<b>4</b>	<b>Headphones jack</b> Connection for external speakers (optional) or headphones (optional).
<b>5</b>	<b>Line In jack</b> Connection for an audio device.

<b>6</b>	<b>Microphone jack</b> Connection for an external microphone (optional).
<b>7</b>	<b>Connect button</b> Enables the system unit to communicate with the wireless keyboard and wireless optical mouse.
<b>8</b>	<b>Modem line jack<sup>2</sup></b> Connection for a modem cable (supplied) to the telephone wall jack.
<b>9</b>	<b>i.LINK® 4-pin, S400 port</b> Connection for compatible i.LINK devices (IEEE 1394).
<b>10</b>	<b>Ethernet port</b> Connection for a 10BASE-T/100BASE-TX Ethernet cable. (The port marked with  [Network] is for LAN connections only.).
<b>11</b>	<b>Universal Serial Bus (USB 2.0) ports (2)</b> Connections for compatible high/full/low-speed USB devices.

<sup>1</sup> Available only on models equipped with Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder features.

<sup>2</sup> An optional "1-to-2" jack adapter (splitter) is required to connect both a telephone and modem line to your computer.

i.LINK is a trademark of Sony used only to designate that a product contains an IEEE 1394 connection. The i.LINK connection may vary, depending on the software programs, operating system and compatible i.LINK devices. All products with an i.LINK connection may not communicate with each other.

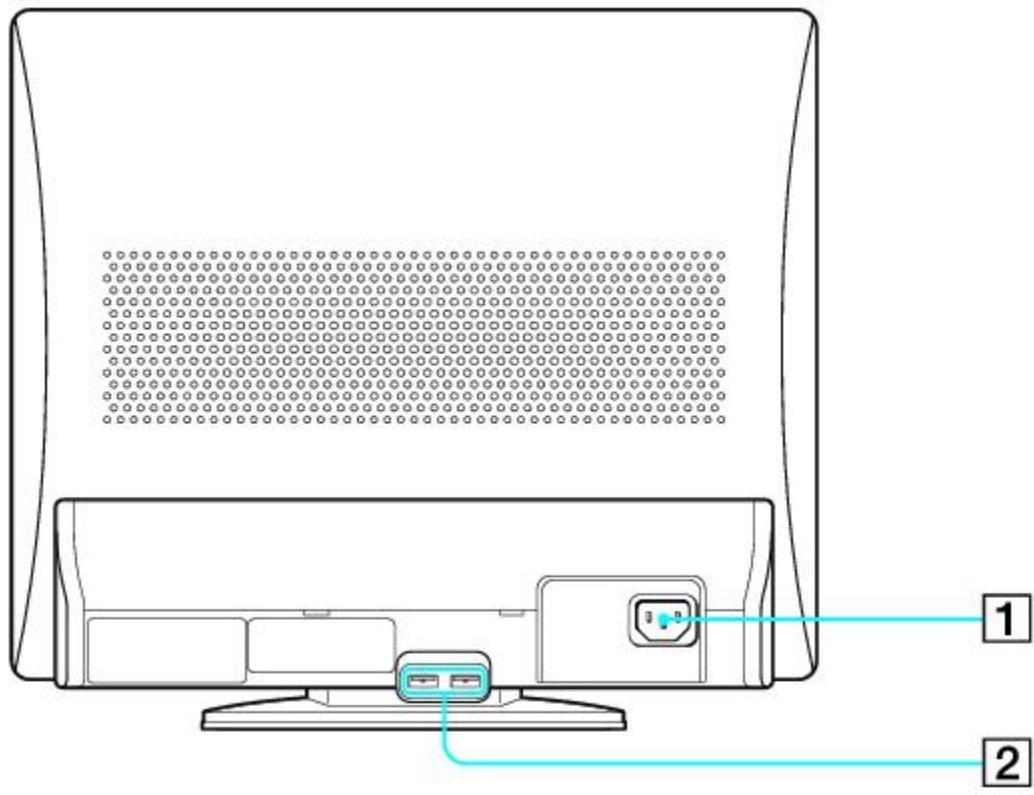


Refer to the documentation supplied with your compatible i.LINK device for information on operating conditions and proper connection. Before connecting compatible i.LINK devices to your system, such as an optical or hard disk drive, confirm their operating system compatibility and required operating conditions.

## About the Back Panel

The back panel of your computer contains the AC power and USB ports.

Back panel

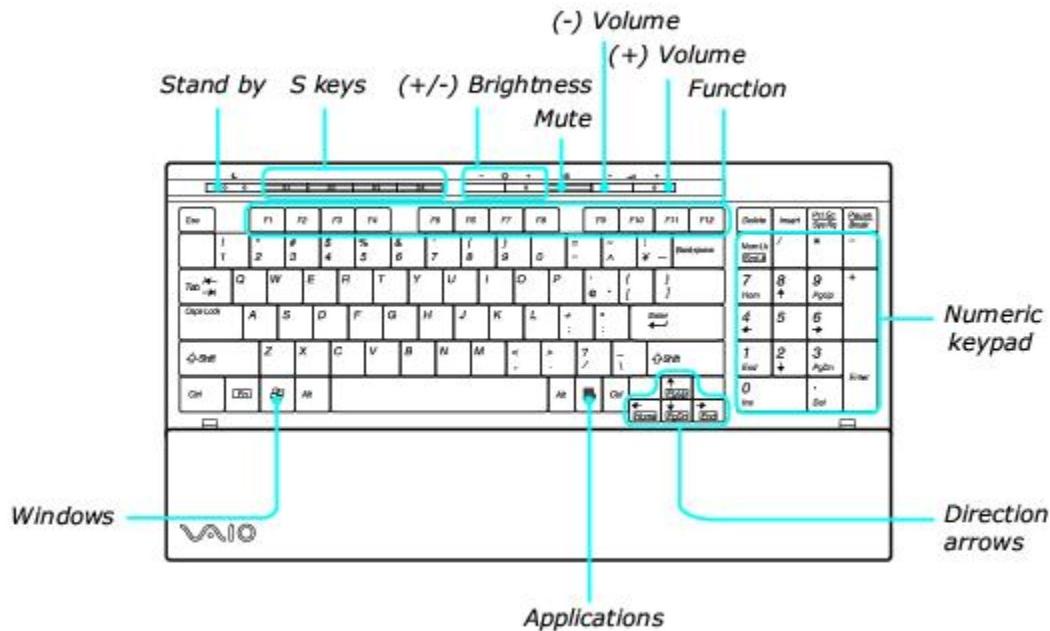


<b>1</b>	<b>AC Input port</b> Connection for the AC power cord (supplied).
<b>2</b>	<b>Universal Serial Bus (USB 2.0) ports (2)</b> Connections for compatible high/full/low-speed USB devices.

## About the Keyboard

Your VAIO® computer is supplied with a wireless keyboard that has a standard key arrangement and additional keys that perform specific functions. Before attempting to use the wireless keyboard with your computer, see the section, [Connecting the Wireless Keyboard](#).

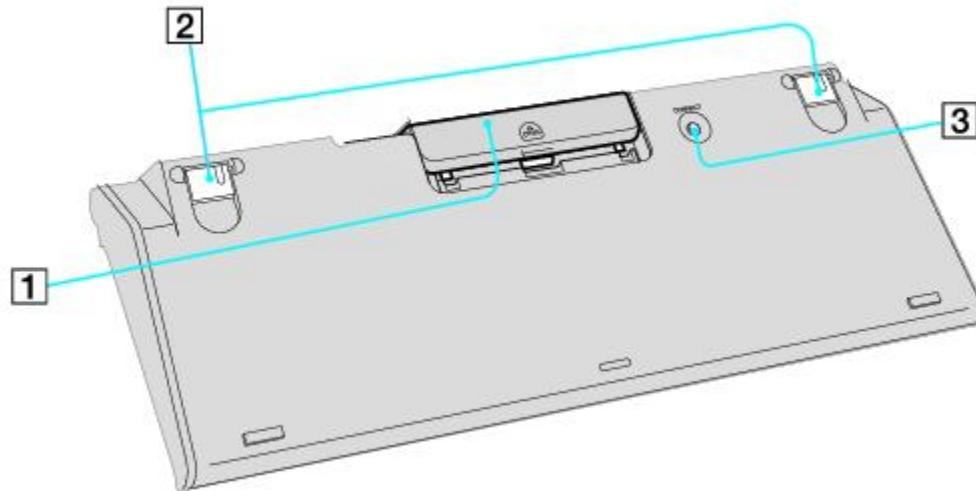
Wireless keyboard (top)



KEY	DESCRIPTION
<b>Stand by</b> 🌙	Press to place the computer into Stand by mode. Press again to resume normal operation <sup>1</sup> .
<b>S keys</b>	Press to activate specific applications.
<b>Brightness</b>	Press increase (+) or decrease (-) the brightness of the LCD screen.
<b>Mute</b> 🔇	Press to turn off speaker sound. Press again to restore sound.
<b>Volume controls</b> 🔊 -🔊	Press to increase (+) or decrease (-) the speakers' volume.
<b>Function</b>	The 12 function keys are used to perform certain tasks. The task associated with each function key varies between software programs.
<b>Numeric keypad</b>	Use the numeric keypad to type numbers or to perform basic math calculations. Press the Num Lock key to enable the numeric keypad function. Press the Num Lock key again to disable the numeric keypad.
<b>Direction arrows</b>	The Up, Down, Left, and Right arrow keys move the pointer on the computer screen.
<b>Applications</b> ≣	Press to display a shortcut menu in certain software programs. Pressing this key is equivalent to clicking the right mouse button.
<b>Windows</b> ⊞	The Microsoft® Windows® key, displays the Start menu. Pressing this key is equivalent to clicking Start on the taskbar.

- 1** Use the Stand by key to resume from Stand by mode. Pressing other keys or using the mouse may not enable your computer to resume normal operation.

Wireless keyboard (bottom)

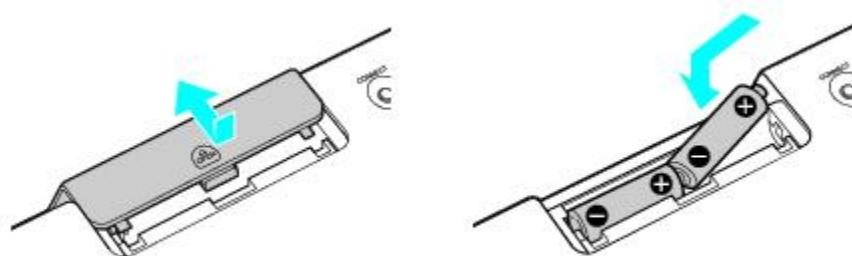


<b>1</b>	<b>Battery compartment</b> Compartment for the supplied AA batteries.
<b>2</b>	<b>Keyboard feet</b> Extend to adjust the keyboard height.
<b>3</b>	<b>CONNECT button</b> Press to enable the wireless keyboard to communicate with the system unit.

## To set up the wireless keyboard

Insert two AA batteries (supplied) into the wireless keyboard as shown. You can check your keyboard's battery power level by clicking (wireless keyboard icon), located in the Windows® taskbar notification area.

Inserting batteries into the wireless keyboard

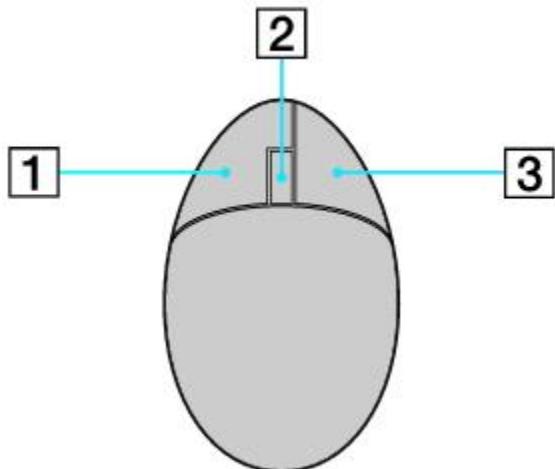


If your wireless keyboard does not operate properly, the batteries may need to be replaced. When your wireless keyboard is not being used for extended periods of time, remove the batteries to avoid possible damage from battery leakage.

## About the Mouse

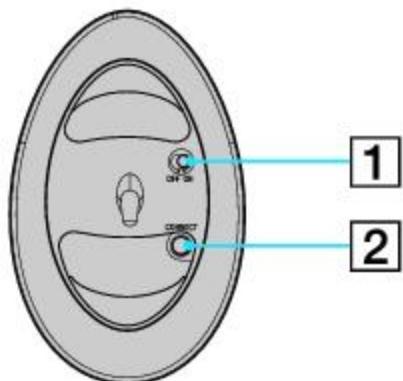
Your VAIO® computer is supplied with a wireless optical mouse. Before attempting to use the wireless optical mouse with your computer, see the section, [Connecting the Wireless Mouse](#).

Wireless mouse (top)



<b>1</b>	<b>Left mouse button</b> Press to perform specific mouse functions.
<b>2</b>	<b>Wheel button</b> Rotate the wheel to scroll up or down on the LCD screen.
<b>3</b>	<b>Right mouse button</b> Press to perform specific mouse functions.

Wireless mouse (bottom)

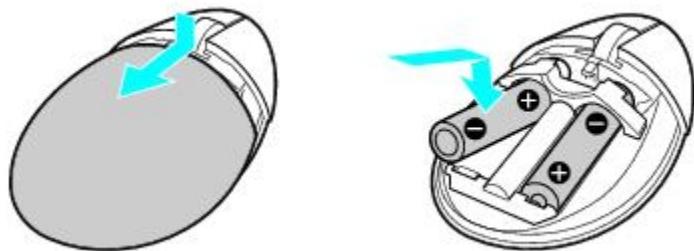


<b>1</b>	<b>Power switch</b> Slide power switch to turn the mouse on or off.
<b>2</b>	<b>CONNECT button</b> Press to enable communication between your VAIO® computer and the wireless mouse.

## To set up the wireless mouse

Insert two AA batteries (supplied) into the wireless mouse as shown. You can check your mouse's battery power level by clicking  (wireless mouse icon), located in the Windows® taskbar notification area.

Inserting batteries into the wireless mouse



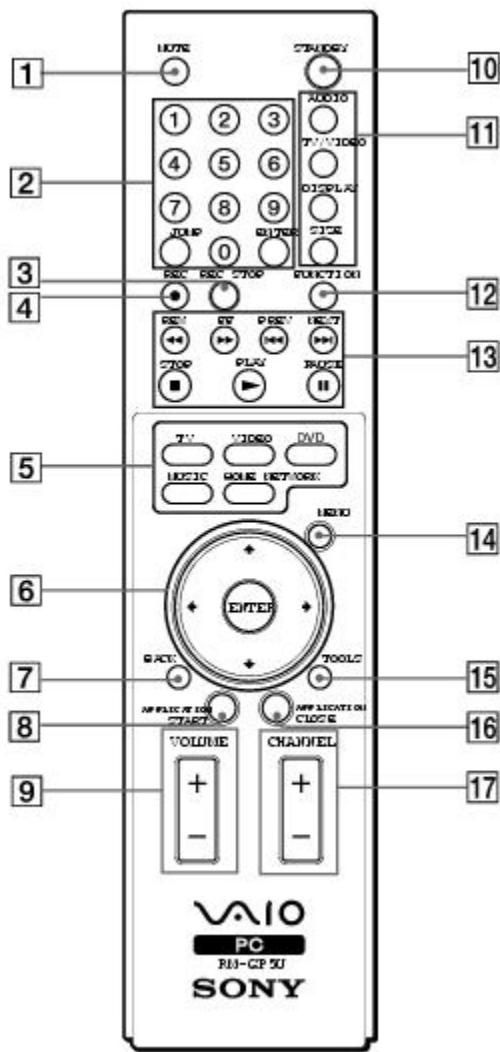
If your wireless mouse does not operate properly, the batteries may need to be replaced.

-  When your wireless mouse is not being used for extended periods of time, remove the batteries to avoid possible damage from battery leakage.

## About the Remote Control

The remote control is supplied with VAIO® computers that are equipped with Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder features. The remote control can start and stop video recording and playback, select channels, and set viewing preferences. This section describes the basic functions of your Giga Pocket remote control. See the online specifications sheet at the Sony Online Computing Support Web site (<http://www.sony.com/pcsupport>), for information about your computer's hardware configuration.

Remote control



<b>1</b>	<b>MUTE button</b> Press to turn off the sound. Press again to restore the sound.
<b>2</b>	<b>Channel number buttons (0-9)</b> Press to select specific channels. (Press the <b>ENTER</b> button to activate channel selection.)
<b>3</b>	<b>JUMP button</b> Press to go to the previous channel. Press again to return to the current channel. <b>ENTER button</b> Press to activate channel selection. See <b>Channel number</b> buttons.
<b>4</b>	<b>REC STOP button</b> Press to stop recording. (Note: The REC STOP function is available for Giga Pocket software only.)
<b>5</b>	<b>REC button</b> Press to begin recording. (Note: The REC function is available for Giga Pocket software only.)
<b>6</b>	<b>TV button</b> Press to change from the on-screen image to the TV/Recording deck. <b>VIDEO button</b> Press to start the Giga Pocket playback deck. (Note: You cannot change the input source while recording.)

	<b>DVD button</b> Press to start the DVD player software program.
5	<b>MUSIC button</b> Press to launch the SonicStage software. <b>HOME NETWORK button</b> Press to launch the VAIO Media.
6	<b>Direction and ENTER buttons</b> Press a direction arrow to navigate. Press <b>ENTER</b> to select.
7	<b>BACK button</b> <b>Press to return to the previous screen.</b> (Note: This function is not available for Giga Pocket software.)
8	<b>APPLICATION START button</b> Press to open a shortcut menu of software programs to start. Use the direction arrows to navigate to a specific software program and press the <b>APPLICATION START</b> button to select and start the program.
9	<b>VOLUME button</b> Press to raise or lower the volume.
10	<b>STANDBY button</b> Press to place the system into Stand by mode. (Note: You cannot place the computer into Stand by mode when certain Giga Pocket functions are running.)
11	<b>AUDIO button</b> Press to view available sound mode options on the monitor/display. <b>TV/VIDEO button</b> Press to change the on-screen image from the TV/Recording deck to external video equipment, such as your VCR. (Note: You cannot change the input source while recording.) <b>DISPLAY button</b> During DVD playback in full screen mode, press to show the settings window. When using Giga Pocket software, press to display the TV/Recording deck and playback deck screens. Press again to hide these views. <b>SIZE button<sup>1</sup></b> Press to view the current software in full-screen size. Press again to return the view to its original size.
12	<b>FUNCTION button</b> When using SonicStage software, press to change from the music drive (hard disk drive) to the CD.
13	<b>REW and FF buttons</b> Press to rewind or fast-forward. <b>PREV and NEXT buttons</b> Press to move back to the previous screen or forward to the next screen. <b>STOP button</b> Press to stop playback. <b>PLAY button</b> Press to begin playback. <b>PAUSE button</b> Press to pause playback.
	<b>MENU button</b>

	Press to view a shortcut menu of available options for a software program. Press again to hide this menu. <b>14</b> (Note: For the Giga Pocket software program, the <b>Select A Cabinet</b> window displays. Press the button again to hide this window.)
<b>15</b>	<b>TOOLS button</b> The function of this button may vary between DVD media. See the DVD player software instructions for details.
<b>16</b>	<b>APPLICATION CLOSE button</b> Press to view a shortcut menu of software programs to close. If more than one software program is open, use the direction arrows to navigate to a specific program and press the <b>Application Close button again to close the program.</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>CHANNEL button</b> Press to change channels automatically (no number input required). (Note: This function is available for Giga Pocket software only.)

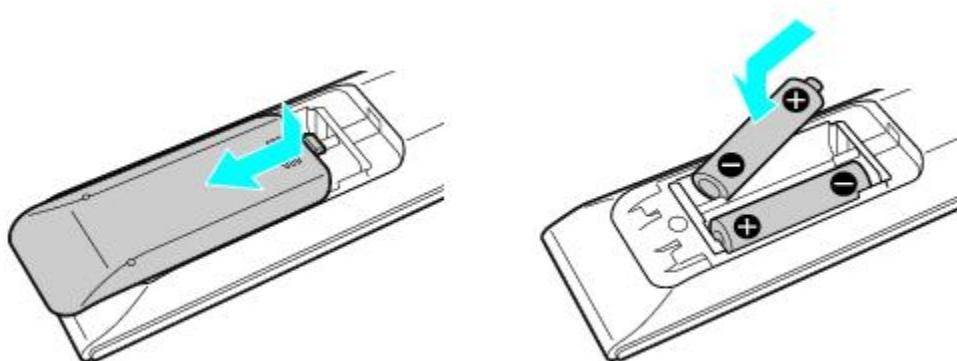
<sup>1</sup> This function is available on selected models.

 For more details about the function buttons on your remote control, see the Giga Pocket software program Help.

## To set up the remote control

Insert two AA batteries (supplied) into the remote control, as shown.

Inserting batteries into the remote control



If your remote control does not operate properly, the batteries may need to be replaced.

 When your remote control is not being used for extended periods of time, remove the batteries to avoid possible damage from battery leakage.

# Setting Up Your Computer

You can set up your system quickly and easily with the instructions provided in this section. See the specifications sheet for your computer on the Sony Online Support Web site at <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport>, for details about your computer's hardware configuration.

- | [Connecting the Power Cord](#)
- | [Connecting the Wireless Keyboard](#)
- | [Connecting the Wireless Mouse](#)
- | [Connecting the Modem Cable](#)
- | [Turning On Your Computer](#)
- | [Registering Your Computer](#)
- | [Turning Off Your Computer](#)

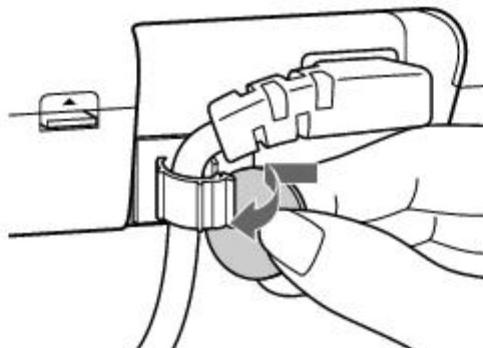
## Connecting the Power Cord

The computer's power cord must be plugged into an AC power source, such as an AC wall outlet, surge protector, or Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS), before you can establish communication with your wireless keyboard and wireless mouse.

 Your computer has the ability to be turned on its base and the power cord may become unplugged. You may lose data if your system loses power while software programs are running. Use the attached power cord clamp to avoid accidentally unplugging your computer.

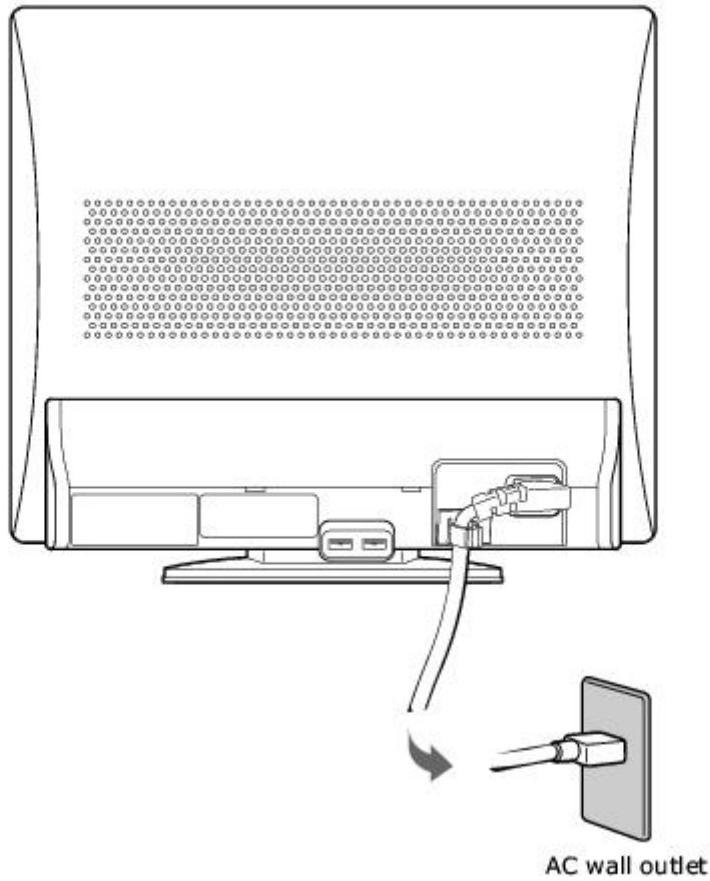
1. Plug the power cord into the AC input port on the back panel of the computer.
2. Use a coin to open the power cord clamp, and then insert the power cord.

Inserting the power cord into the power cord clamp



3. Plug the power cord into a grounded AC wall outlet, surge protector, or Universal Power Supply (UPS).

Connecting the power cord



 Install your computer so you can easily reach the power outlet in the event of an emergency.

## Connecting the Wireless Keyboard

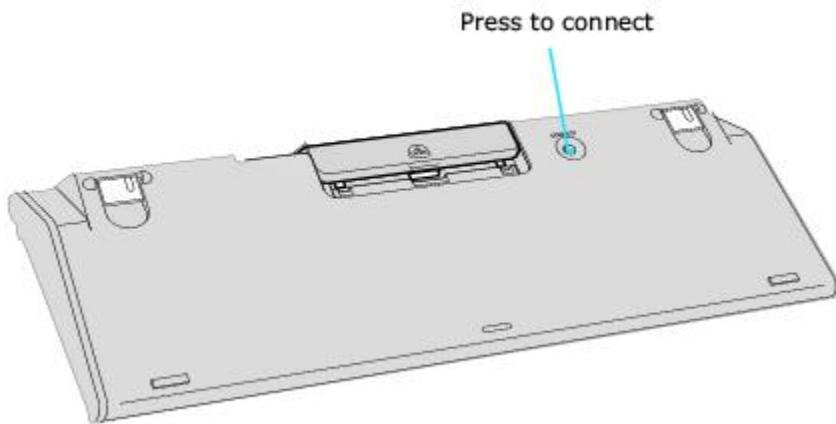
Your VAIO® computer is supplied with a wireless keyboard. Before attempting to use the wireless keyboard, you must enable communication between the computer and the keyboard.

 When attempting to connect the wireless keyboard, confirm that the AA batteries (supplied) are properly inserted into the keyboard before your computer is turned on.

### To connect the wireless keyboard

1. Turn on your computer.
2. Press the **CONNECT** button on the left panel of the computer.
3. Turn the wireless keyboard over.
4. Press the **CONNECT** button to activate communication between the wireless keyboard and the computer

Connecting the keyboard



### Additional information about the wireless keyboard

The wireless keyboard requires unobstructed communication with the system unit for proper operation.

- | Do not exceed a maximum distance of 2 feet between your VAI0® computer and your wireless keyboard.
- | Confirm that the supplied AA batteries are properly installed.
- | Press the **CONNECT** buttons located on the left panel of the computer and on the bottom of the keyboard, to establish communication between the equipment.
- | Avoid using radio-controlled toys or equipment, CB radios, and other wireless devices in the area near your wireless keyboard. These devices may cause interference, causing your keyboard to stop working properly.
- | Do not place metal furniture near your computer or wireless keyboard, as this may create interference, causing your keyboard to stop working properly.

## Connecting the Wireless Mouse

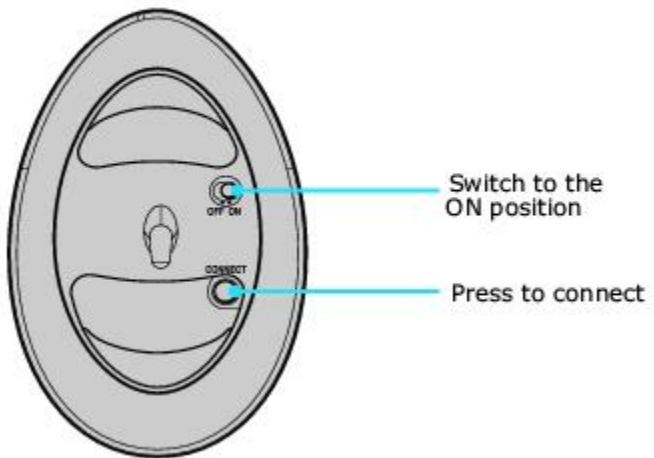
Your VAI0® computer is supplied with a wireless mouse. Before attempting to use the wireless mouse, you must enable communication between the computer and the mouse.

-  When attempting to connect the wireless mouse, confirm that the AA batteries (supplied) are properly inserted into the mouse before your computer is turned on.

### To connect the wireless optical mouse

1. Turn on your computer.
2. Press the **CONNECT** button on the left panel of the computer.
3. Turn the wireless mouse over.
4. Slide the power button to the **ON** position and press the **CONNECT** button.

Connecting the mouse



5. Place the optical mouse on an appropriate surface to enable tracking.

#### **Additional information about the wireless optical mouse**

The wireless optical mouse requires an ideal surface texture in order to provide precision pointing and tracking.

- | Use surfaces such as plain paper, card stock, or fabric that have minimal repetitive patterns.
- | Avoid surfaces such as mirrors, smooth glass, or magazines that have half-tone printing.

The wireless optical mouse requires unobstructed communication with the system unit for proper operation.

- | Do not exceed a maximum distance of 2 feet between your VAIO® computer and your wireless mouse.
- | Confirm that the supplied AA batteries are properly installed.
- | Press the **Connect** buttons located on the left panel of the computer and on the bottom of the mouse, to establish the communication between the equipment.
- | Verify the infrared receiver on the computer's front panel is free of obstructions that may prevent proper operation.
- | Avoid using radio-controlled toys or equipment, CB radios, and other wireless devices in the area near your wireless mouse. These devices may cause interference, causing your mouse to stop working properly.
- | Do not place metal furniture near your computer or wireless mouse, as this may create interference, causing your mouse to stop working properly.

## **Connecting the Modem Cable**

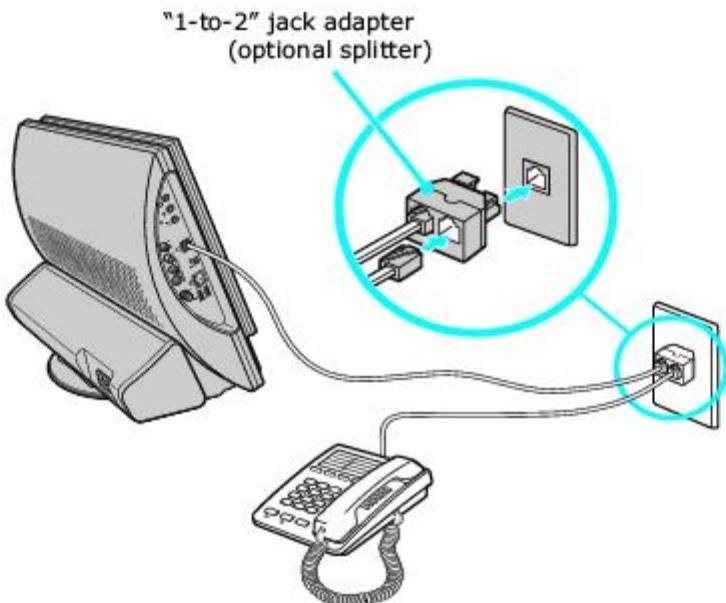
Your computer is equipped with a single modem line jack to connect the supplied modem cable to your telephone wall jack. To use your wall jack for your telephone and modem lines, purchase a "1-to-2" jack adapter device (splitter).

#### **To connect the modem cable**

1. Unplug your telephone cable from the wall jack.
2. Insert the telephone cable into one of the RJ-11 jacks on a splitter device (optional).
3. Insert one end of the modem cable (supplied) into the other RJ-11 jack on the splitter device.

4. Insert the plug end of the splitter device into the wall jack.
5. Plug the modem cable into the modem line jack on the computer.

Connecting the modem cable



Your computer has a protective sticker covering the Ethernet port. Connect only 10BASE-T and 100BASE-TX cables to the Ethernet port. Using other cables or a telephone cable may result in an electric current overload that can cause a malfunction, excessive heat, or fire in the port. For help on connecting to a network, see your network administrator.



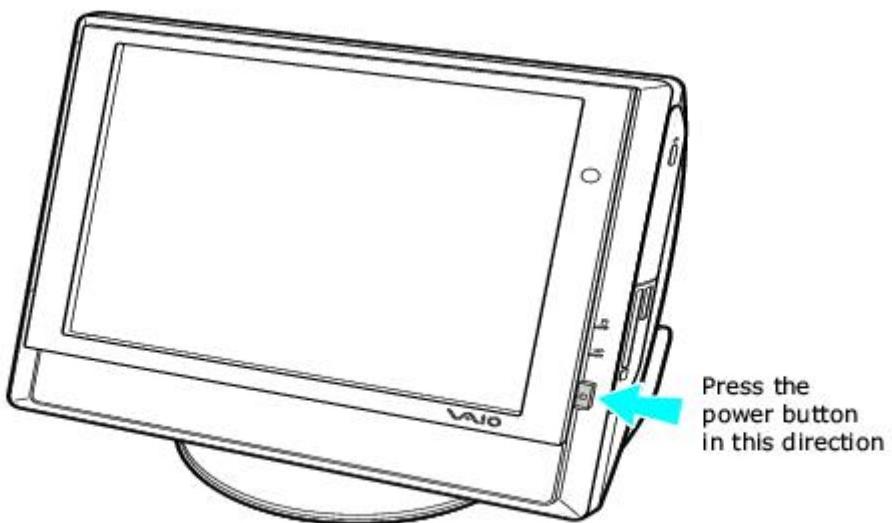
## Turning On Your Computer

Press the power button in from the right side, to turn the computer on and off. When you start your computer, it may detect new hardware and prompt you to restart your computer. Respond to this prompt immediately.



Press the power button correctly to avoid damage to the computer.

Turning on your computer



## Registering Your Computer

Take advantage of Sony's commitment to quality customer support and receive these benefits by registering your computer:

- | **Sony Customer Support** — Communicate with a Support Representative to troubleshoot problems you may be having with your computer.
- | **Limited warranty** — Protect your investment. See the Limited Warranty Card for more details.

 You are prompted to register your computer the first time you turn on the unit. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the registration process. If you are not able to register your computer during the first session, you are provided with additional registration opportunities later.

## Turning Off Your Computer

Follow these steps when you are ready to turn off your computer for an extended period of time.

 To avoid loss of data, do not use the Power button to turn off the computer.

### To turn off your computer

1. Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar, then select **Turn Off Computer**.

The **Turn Off Computer** dialog box appears.

2. Select the **Turn Off** option.

 Respond to any prompts about saving your documents.

3. Wait for your computer to turn off automatically—the power indicator light turns off.

4. Turn off any peripheral devices connected to your computer.

 If you plan to stop using your computer for a short period of time, use Stand by mode.

## About the power button

If your system stops responding, press and hold the Power button for more than six seconds to force your system to shut down. You may need to repeat this procedure if your system does not shut down on the first attempt.

# Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder

Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder is a suite of interactive Sony audio and video components that are designed to create, capture, and play back video files derived from television and your personal videos.<sup>1</sup>

Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder hardware and software programs are available on

-  certain VAIO® computers. See your computer's online specification sheet for details on your system configuration.

- | [An Overview of Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder](#)
- | [Setting Up Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder](#)
- | [Setting Up Giga Pocket Software](#)
- | [Giga Pocket](#)
- | [Timer Recording Wizard](#)
- | [Timer Recording Manager](#)
- | [Giga Pocket Explorer](#)
- | [CLIÉ Converter](#)
- | [Glossary](#)
- | [Internet Electronic Program Guide Service](#)

<sup>1</sup> Unauthorized duplication of audio or video files is a violation of applicable laws.

## An Overview of Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder

Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder is a unique set of tools that enhance your VAIO® computer's capabilities. Giga Pocket gives you a wide range of video viewing, recording, and playback capabilities, such as:

- | Watching and recording television programs from your computer.
- | Viewing and recording TV programming simultaneously.
- | Setting and managing daily/weekly timer recording schedules.
- | Managing Video Capsules (recorded video contents) on your computer.
- | Recording personal video content from a videotape.
- | Playing your Video Capsules on other computers.
- | Operating Giga Pocket functions with a remote control device.
- | Sharing Giga Pocket features and functions with other computers on a network.
- | Converting Video Capsules into gMovie format for viewing on your CLIÉ handheld.

-  For an explanation of Giga Pocket terms, see the [Glossary](#).

## Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder includes:

- | **Giga Pocket** — This application enables you to watch TV programs on your computer's display and record them onto the hard disk drive as Video Capsules for later playback.
- | **Timer Recording Manager** — The Timer Recording Manager keeps track of all TV program recordings you have scheduled. This program also enables you to modify timer recordings.
- | **Timer Recording Wizard** — The Wizard interface guides you through setting up a timer recording schedule. You can program one-time recordings and set up daily or weekly recurring recording schedules.

- | **Giga Pocket Explorer** — The Giga Pocket Explorer program functions as your video file management system, and stores recorded Video Capsules as well as modified Playlists. Giga Pocket Explorer contains export/import functions for file format conversions.
- | **Giga Pocket Server** — The Giga Pocket Server enables multiple computers on a network to use certain Giga Pocket software functions.
- | **CLIÉ® Converter** — The CLIÉ Converter is a plug-in application that enables the conversion of Video Capsules into gMovie format. You can change the format your Giga Pocket™ contents and transfer them onto a Memory Stick® media for viewing with your Sony® CLIÉ® Handheld.

## Accessing Giga Pocket Help

For more information about Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder, follow these steps:

1. Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar and select **All Programs**.
2. Select **Giga Pocket**, **Help**, and click **Giga Pocket Help**.

Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder maintains information about the software and Video Capsules on your computer's drive D, in a folder named D:\Giga Pocket V5. This

 folder and its contents are not designed for your direct maintenance. Please do not move, modify or delete the Giga Pocket Folder or any of its contents. Any alteration to this folder or its contents may cause your Giga Pocket software and Video Capsules to stop working properly.

## Setting Up Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder

This section illustrates how to set up the cables and connections for your Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder system.

-  The hardware configuration of your computer may vary from the illustrations shown.
-  See the specifications sheet for your computer on the Sony Online Support Web site at <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport>.

### To set up TV connections

The best method of connecting your computer system, TV monitor or display, and cable service access, depends on the type of cable connection available in your home.

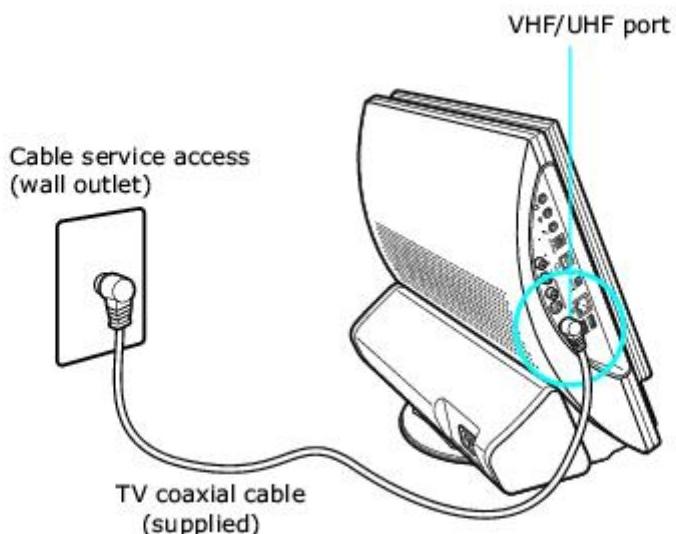
-  Your VAIO® computer is supplied with certain cables. Your in-home cable access may require extra cables, adapters or connection equipment not supplied with your computer.

### Connecting to standard cable access (CATV)

#### Option 1

1. Connect one end of the TV coaxial cable (supplied) to your cable service access.
2. Connect the other end of the TV coaxial cable to the VHF/UHF port on the left panel of your computer.

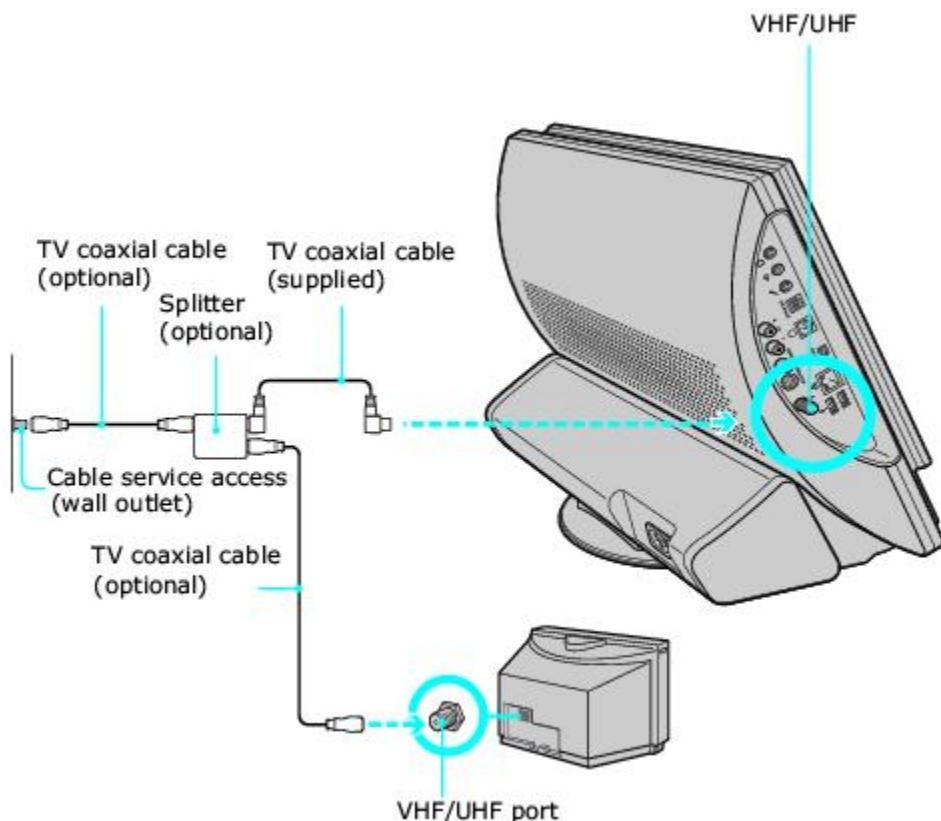
To connect in CATV mode (Option 1)



## Option 2

1. Connect one end of a TV coaxial cable (optional) to your cable service access. Connect the other end to the single-connection end of a splitter adapter.
2. Connect the TV coaxial cable (supplied) to the double-connection end of the splitter adapter. Connect the other end to the VHF/UHF port on the left panel of your computer.
3. Connect a third TV coaxial cable (optional) to the double-connection end of the splitter adapter. Connect the other end to the VHF/UHF port on the rear of your TV monitor or display.

To connect in CATV mode (Option 2)



## Connecting to a standard antenna (air)

You can connect your Giga Pocket® system to an indoor/outdoor antenna system, using Option 1 or 2 from the previous section, [Connecting to standard cable access \(CATV\)](#). Depending on the type of antenna system in your home, your connection may require a VHF/UHF RF combiner/transformer (optional) to connect your computer and the indoor/outdoor antenna system.

-  If you are connecting to an indoor/outdoor antenna, you may need to reorient the antenna for best reception.

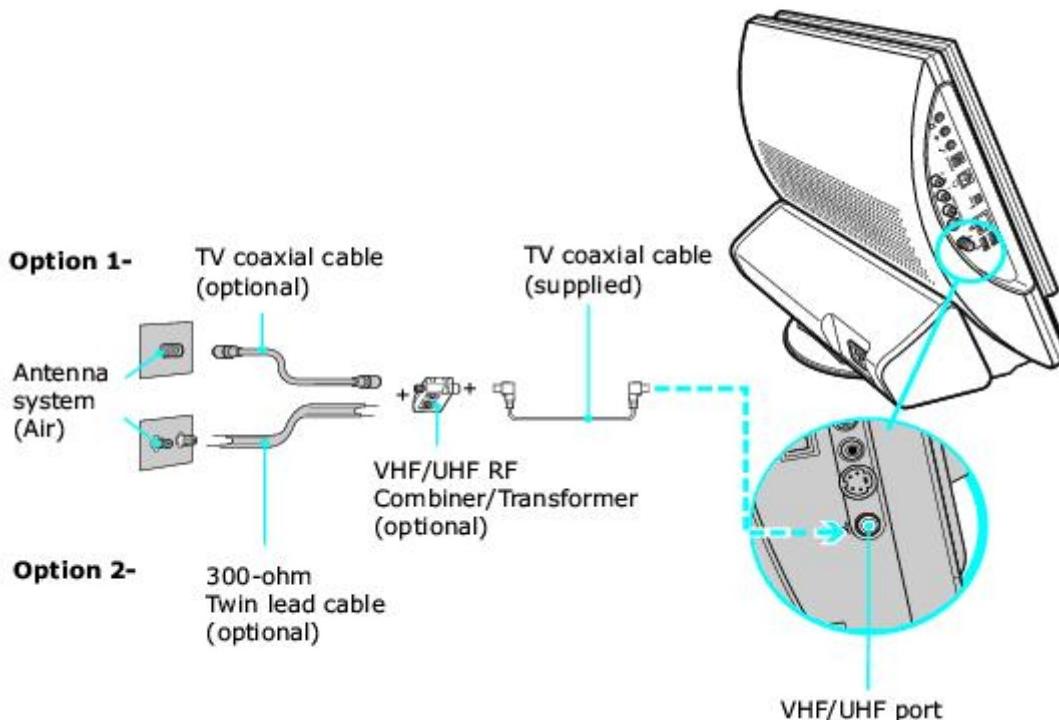
### Option 1

1. Connect one end of a TV coaxial cable (optional) to your antenna outlet. Connect the other end to a VHF/UHF RF combiner/transformer (optional).
2. Connect the TV coaxial cable (supplied) from the combiner/transformer to the VHF/UHF port on the left panel of your computer.

### Option 2

1. Connect both ends of the antenna's twin lead cable to the screw-type grips on the combiner/transformer.
2. Connect the TV coaxial cable (supplied) from the combiner/transformer to the VHF/UHF port on the left panel of your computer.

To connect in standard antenna mode (air)



-  Your VAIO® computer is supplied with certain cables. Depending on your in-home cable access, you may require extra cables, adapters or connection equipment not supplied with your computer.

## Connecting with a cable or satellite set-top box (STB)

You can connect your Giga Pocket® system to cable service access that uses a set-top box (cable or satellite). When using the set-top box (STB) setup, you can only change channels through the STB, using its controls or supplied remote control.

When using the STB setup:

- | The Giga Pocket remote control cannot be used to change TV channels. You can use the Giga Pocket remote control to set Giga Pocket software to the appropriate channel-out number (channel 3, 4, etc.) or to the direct video input specified by your cable or satellite service provider.
- | A standard TV remote control cannot be used to change TV channels. You can use your TV remote control to set the TV to the channel-out number (channel 3, 4, etc.) or direct video input specified by your cable or satellite service provider.
- | You may be able to use a universal remote control or commander to change TV channels, if the device is able to control the STB.

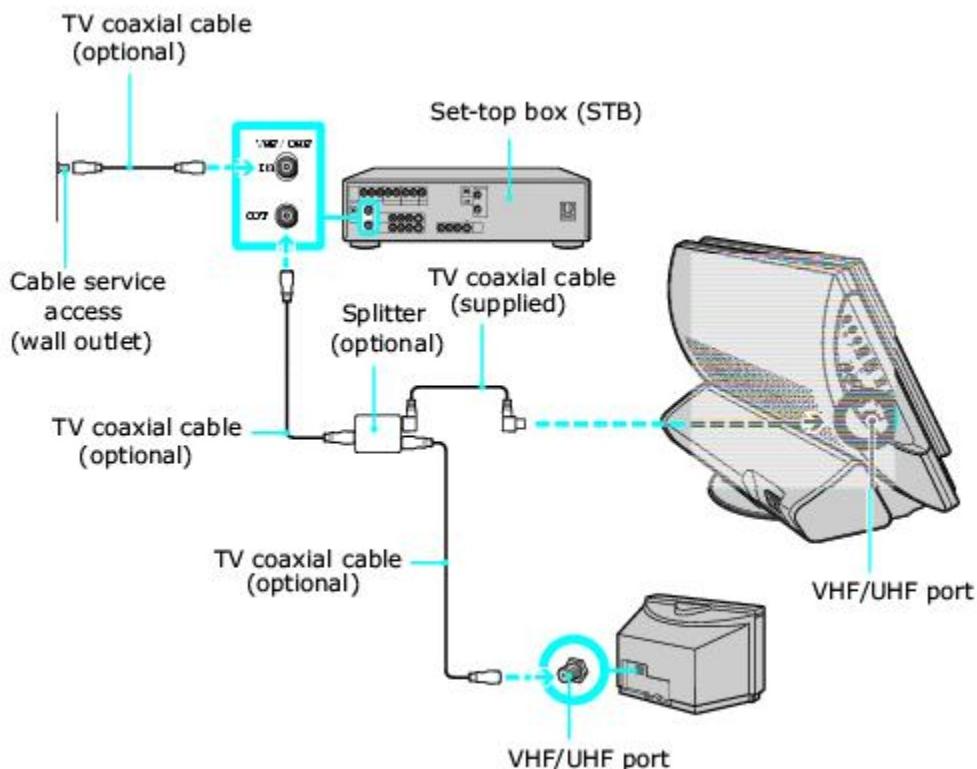
Cable/satellite service, equipment, and features, may vary between service providers.

 Contact your cable or satellite service provider for details on using STB equipment and accessories.

### Option 1

1. Connect one end of a TV coaxial cable (optional) to your cable service access. Connect the other end to the In jack on the back panel of your set-top box (STB).
2. Connect a second TV coaxial cable (optional) to the Out jack on your STB. Connect the other end to the single-connection end of a splitter adapter (optional).
3. Connect a third TV coaxial cable (supplied) to the double-connection end of the splitter adapter. Connect the other end to the VHF/UHF port on the left panel of your computer.
4. Connect a fourth TV coaxial cable (optional) to the double-connection end of the splitter adapter. Connect the other end to the VHF/UHF port on the rear of your TV monitor or display.

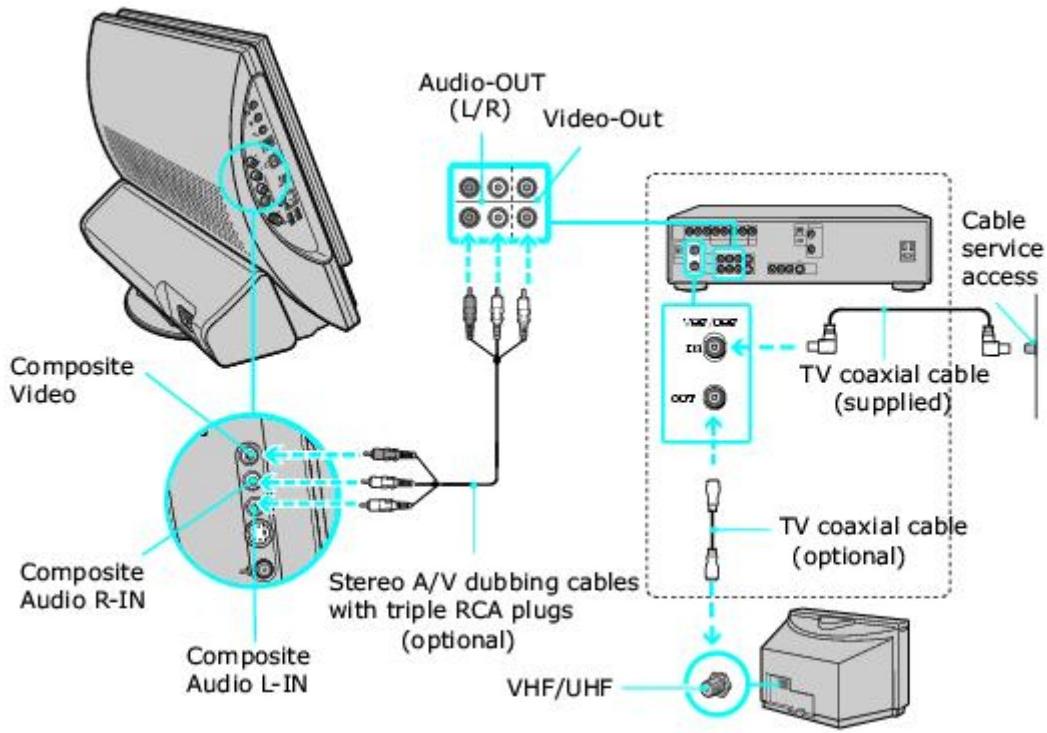
To connect in STB mode (Option 1)



## Option 2

1. Connect one end of the TV coaxial cable (supplied) to your cable service access. Connect the other end to the In jack on the back panel of your set-top box (STB).
2. Connect a second TV coaxial cable (optional) to the Out jack on your STB unit. Connect the other end to the VHF/UHF port on the rear of your TV monitor or display.
3. Connect one end of the stereo A/V dubbing cables with triple RCA jacks (optional) to the Video Out and Audio-OUT (L/R) jacks on the back panel of your STB unit, matching the plug and jack colors.
4. Connect the other RCA jacks of the stereo A/V dubbing cable into the Audio-R (IN), Audio-L (IN), and Composite video (IN) jacks on the left panel of your computer, matching the plug and jack colors.

To connect in STB mode (Option 2)



## Setting up additional equipment

This section illustrates how to set up additional equipment with the Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder System.

### To connect a compatible VCR or camcorder

Your VAIO® computer has both audio and video connection capability. You can locate the connections on the left panel of the system unit. You can connect a VCR or camcorder, using the audio jacks and video ports. Your VCR or camcorder may have either standard video or S-video connection capability.

### To connect with an S-video cable

Connect an S-video cable (optional) directly into the S-video jack on the left panel of your computer. Connect the other end of the S-video cable into the appropriate port on your compatible VCR or camcorder.

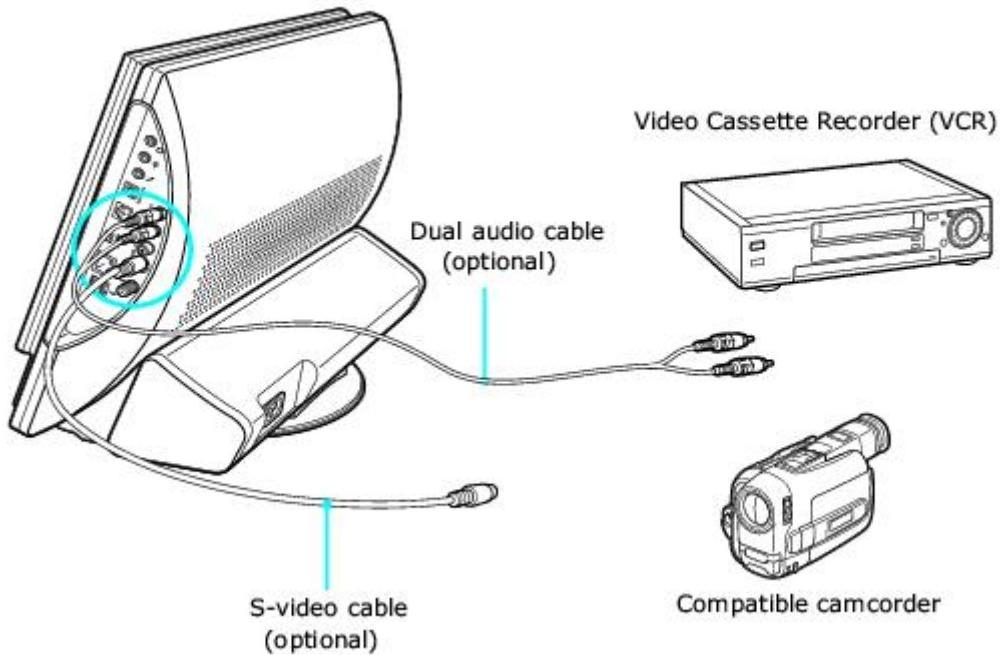
### To connect with an audio cable (Dual RCA plugs)

Connect an audio cable with double RCA plugs at each end (optional) into the composite audio L and R jacks, located on the left panel of your computer. Connect the other ends of the audio cable into the appropriate ports on your compatible VCR or camcorder.

### To connect with a stereo A/V dubbing cable (Triple RCA plugs)

Connect a stereo A/V dubbing cable with triple RCA plugs at each end (optional) directly into the composite video In port, composite audio L and R In jacks, located on the left panel of your computer. Connect the other ends of the stereo A/V dubbing cable into the appropriate jacks on your compatible VCR or camcorder.

To connect a VCR or camcorder



## Setting Up Giga Pocket Software

Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder software features and functions are detailed in this section, enabling you to begin viewing or recording TV programs.

### To set up TV viewing

When you start Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder for the first time, you are automatically prompted to set the video input source for watching TV or cable TV (CATV) programs on your computer.

#### Starting Giga Pocket for TV Setup (For first time setup)

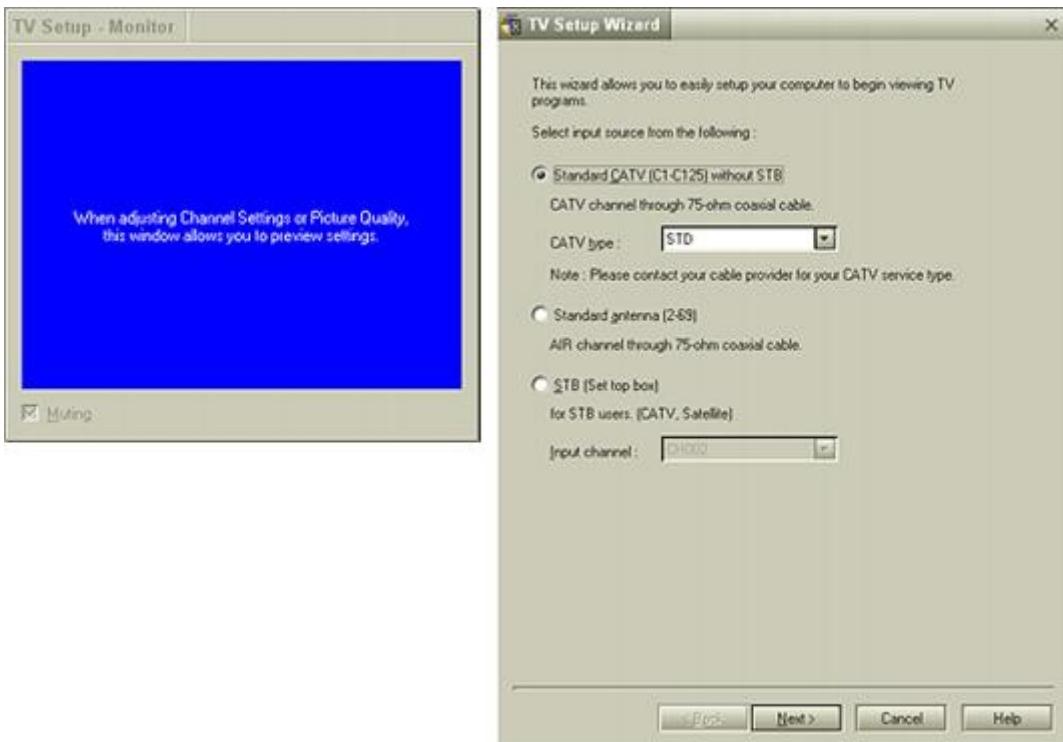
1. Verify that the computer time and date settings as displayed in the taskbar are correct.

To adjust these settings:

1. Right-click on the time clock shown in the taskbar notification area. A shortcut menu appears.
  2. Select **Adjust Date/Time**, and a dialog box appears.
  3. Correct the date and time, if necessary, and then click **Apply**.
  4. Click **OK** to close the dialog box.
2. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, point to **All Programs**, point to **Giga Pocket**, point to **All Software**, and then click **TV Setup**.

The **TV Setup Wizard** appears.

## TV Setup Wizard

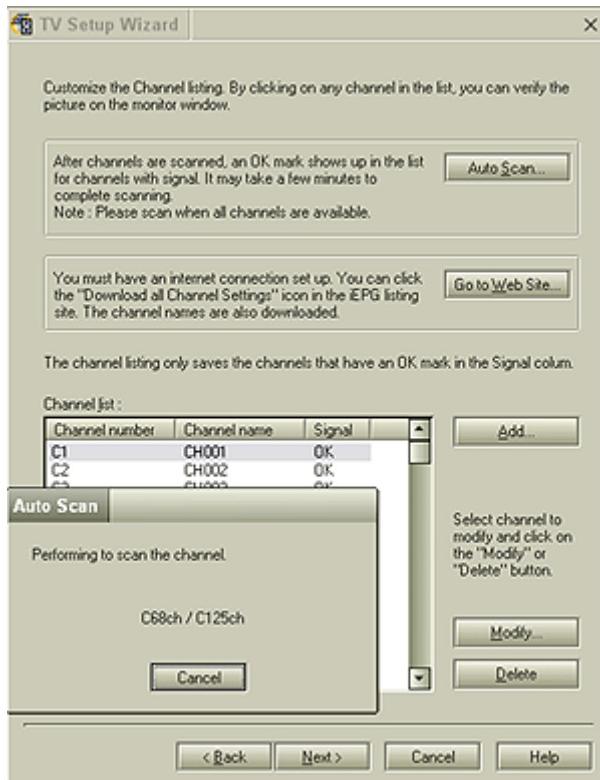


3. Depending on your cable service access, select **Standard CATV**, **Standard antenna**, or **set-top box (STB)**.
  - i **Standard CATV (C1-C125) without STB** — For this connection, you must use a coaxial cable directly (without an STB) to your computer. The default setting for this connection option is STD. Depending on your local connection requirements, HRC and IRC are also available.
  - i **Standard antenna (2-69)** — Select this option if you connect an aerial antenna's coaxial cable directly to your computer for watching TV programs.
  - i **STB (Set top box)** — Select this option if the broadcast signal is received from a set top box (STB) such as a digital cable or satellite box. Make sure that the Input channel on your STB (Ch. 3, Ch. 4, etc.) matches the Input channel listed in the Giga Pocket TV Setup dialog box.

If you are not sure of the type of cable connection to use (Standard, HRC, or IRC), contact your cable provider for information.
4. Click **Next**. The wizard displays a dialog box that enables you to customize the channel listings.
5. Click **Auto Scan**.

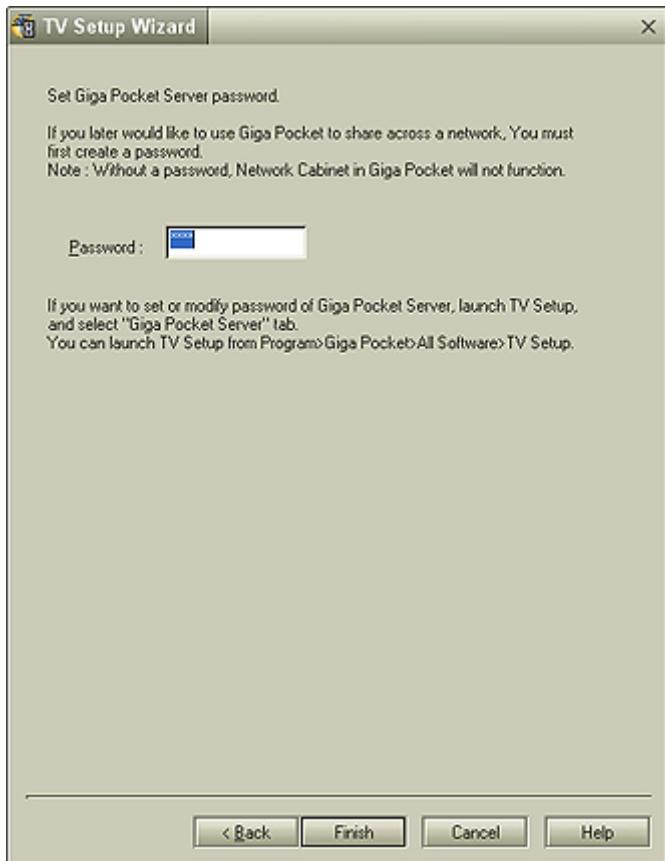
You can view the channel reception in the pop-up **TV Setup - Monitor** window.

## TV Setup Wizard - Auto Scan



 If your computer is connected to the Internet, you can click **Go to Web site...** and download channel listings from the iEPG listing site.

6. Connect to the Internet.
7. Click **Go to Web site...** and download channel listings by clicking **Download all Channel Settings**.
8. Click **Next**. For the first time setup, you are prompted to set your Giga Pocket Server password.



9. Type in a password and click **Finish**.

## Setting up your display (monitor)

When using Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder, set your display settings as follows:

- | **Colors** — Use the default factory settings (32-bit).
- | **Screen area** — Use the default video resolution.

If you change the default settings, you may experience poor image quality on your display.

-  Microsoft® Windows® XP operating system supports a single Giga Pocket user at any given time. Even if a different user logs on using the fast switch feature, Giga Pocket is not available to any other user account. For more information, see Giga Pocket Help.

## Giga Pocket

Giga Pocket® enables you to watch a TV program on your computer display while recording it onto your hard disk drive. Using the Giga Pocket Slip Play feature, you can view a program from the beginning even while it is being recorded.

### Starting Giga Pocket

1. Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar, point to **All Programs**, point to **Giga Pocket**, then click **Giga Pocket**. The **Giga Pocket** window appears.

## Giga Pocket window

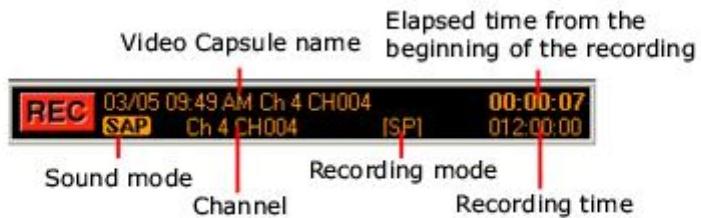


- The current television broadcast is displayed, based on the selected channel.

## Using the TV/Recording deck and Playback deck

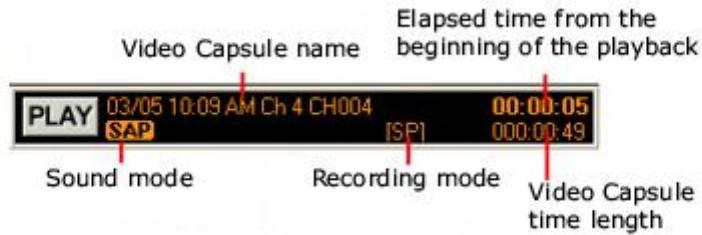
Giga Pocket® features two decks on the main interface window: the TV/Recording deck and the Playback deck.

### TV/Recording deck (detail)



Use the TV/Recording deck to view programs and record Video Capsules. You can use the Playback deck of your Giga Pocket to play back a prerecorded Video Capsule.

### Playback deck (detail)



## Recording a Video Capsule

Giga Pocket stores recorded images as Video Capsules. The Video Capsules provide file recording information, which can be viewed through Giga Pocket Explorer. Manage your Video Capsules with Giga Pocket Explorer.

You cannot record a program into a previously recorded Video Capsule. All new content is recorded into a new Video Capsule.

1. Select your program by switching to the appropriate channel. Use the channel buttons located at the bottom of the Giga Pocket window, or use the right and left direction arrows on your keyboard.
2. Click **Record** , located at the bottom of the window, to begin recording your Video Capsule.
3. When your program has completed or you wish to end the Video Capsule, click **Stop** .

To pause your recording session, click **Pause** . Click on it again to resume recording.

## Using the Slip Play feature

While a program is being recorded on the TV/Recording deck, you can watch that same program from the beginning, using the Playback deck. You can begin using Slip Play to view your recording, beginning approximately ten seconds after your recording session begins.

1. From the menu bar, click **Functions**.
2. Select **Start Slip Play**.

## Additional information about Giga Pocket

- | Giga Pocket® can be used for external video recording. Depending on conditions, not all video images can be recorded or displayed.
- | Video input from game consoles may not be recorded or displayed in Giga Pocket.
- | When you input an image from a video player device, such as a VCR that is connected to your computer, the following images may not record or display:
  - | The still images of a paused playback screen.
  - | A screen without images, such as a blue screen.
  - | The menu screens of the attached video player device.
- | The Giga Pocket software's displayed image or images from a prerecorded Video Capsule may be interrupted or distorted under the following circumstances:
  - | If you change the channel on an attached video player device.
  - | If you switch input during the analog input from an attached video player device.
  - | If you attempt to play back a damaged video tape.
  - | If you press Pause during the recording process.

- When you play a Video Capsule for a few seconds from the end of the film roll using the scroll bar, you may not be able to see a displayed image.
- The computer's response may decrease when you attempt to play a Video Capsule while recording a TV program using Giga Pocket.

Giga Pocket may interrupt or stop playback to allocate system resources for the timer recording event, if there are other applications running simultaneously. If this occurs, wait until Giga Pocket finishes recording before playing the Video Capsule.

- The timer recording may fail due to an "Event buffer of audio overflow" error in the following circumstances:
  - The input cable (coaxial or video cable) is disconnected after recording starts.
  - You record a TV channel that has no broadcast content.
  - You record video content from an old video tape with poor signal quality.
- The on-screen display may shift and split under some circumstances. If this occurs, switch the TV/Recording deck and the playback deck, or switch the channel. The recording proceeds even if the on-screen display shifts.
- Giga Pocket® software does not operate properly if used concurrently with other video applications, such as DVgate™ Plus or Click to DVD™ software programs.

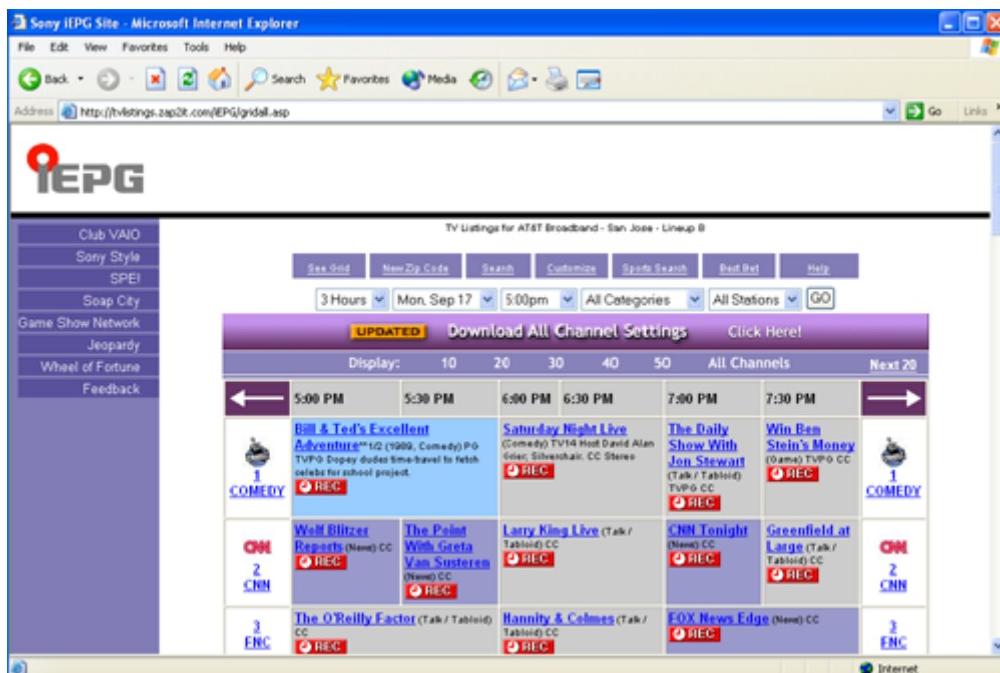
## Using the TV Program Web site

Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, point to **All Programs**, point to **Giga Pocket**, and then select **Zap2it**.

You can also go directly to the Web site at <http://www.sony.com/vaiotv>.

-  Timer recording using the Internet Electronic Program Guide service requires an Internet connection. See the section, [Setting up your Internet Electronic Program Guide service](#), for information on using this service.

### Internet Electronic Program Guide (iEPG) Web site



TV Listings for AT&T Broadband - San Jose - Lineup B								
		See Grid	New Zip Code	Search	Customize	Sports Search	Best Bet	Help
		3 Hours	Mon, Sep 17	5:00pm	All Categories	All Stations	<input type="button" value="GO"/>	
<b>1 COMEDY</b>		5:00 PM	5:30 PM	6:00 PM	6:30 PM	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	<input type="button" value="→"/>
	<b>Bill &amp; Ted's Excellent Adventure</b> (1989, Comedy) PG TOP: Two dudus time-travel to fetch back-to-school project. <input checked="" type="button" value="REC"/>	<b>Saturday Night Live</b> (Comedy) TV14 Host David Alan Geler Silvershaft, CC Stereo <input checked="" type="button" value="REC"/>	<b>The Daily Show With Jon Stewart</b> (Talk / Tabloid) TVPG CC <input checked="" type="button" value="REC"/>	<b>Win Ben Stein's Money</b> (Game) TVPG CC <input checked="" type="button" value="REC"/>		<b>1 COMEDY</b>	<input type="button" value="→"/>	
<b>2 CNN</b>		<b>Wolf Blitzer Reports</b> (News) CC <input checked="" type="button" value="REC"/>	<b>The Point With Greta Van Susteren</b> (News) CC <input checked="" type="button" value="REC"/>	<b>Larry King Live</b> (Talk / Tabloid) CC <input checked="" type="button" value="REC"/>	<b>CNN Tonight</b> (News) CC <input checked="" type="button" value="REC"/>	<b>Greenfield at Large</b> (Talk / Tabloid) CC <input checked="" type="button" value="REC"/>		<b>2 CNN</b>
<b>3 FOX</b>		<b>The O'Reilly Factor</b> (Talk / Tabloid) CC <input checked="" type="button" value="REC"/>	<b>Hannity &amp; Colmes</b> (Talk / Tabloid) CC <input checked="" type="button" value="REC"/>	<b>FOX News Edge</b> (News) CC <input checked="" type="button" value="REC"/>		<b>3 FOX</b>	<input type="button" value="→"/>	

The appearance of the online channel guide Web site, its contents, and the accuracy of the TV listings are controlled by the TV listing provider and may change without notice. Pay-per-view channels can be accessed when making payments directly to the appropriate TV program provider.

You can schedule up to 100 timer recordings using Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder.

From the online channel guide, click on the **REC** icon  to select the program you wish to record. The Timer Recording Wizard begins and the **New Timer Recording - Set Channel and Start Date and Time** window appears.

 Timer recordings create virtual containers for the recorded content that are called Video Capsules.

## Accessing Giga Pocket Help

For more information about Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder, follow these steps:

1. Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar and select **All Programs**.
2. Select **Giga Pocket, Help**, and click **Giga Pocket Help**.

## Timer Recording Wizard

With the Timer Recording Wizard, you can set, adjust, and cancel the timer recording settings.

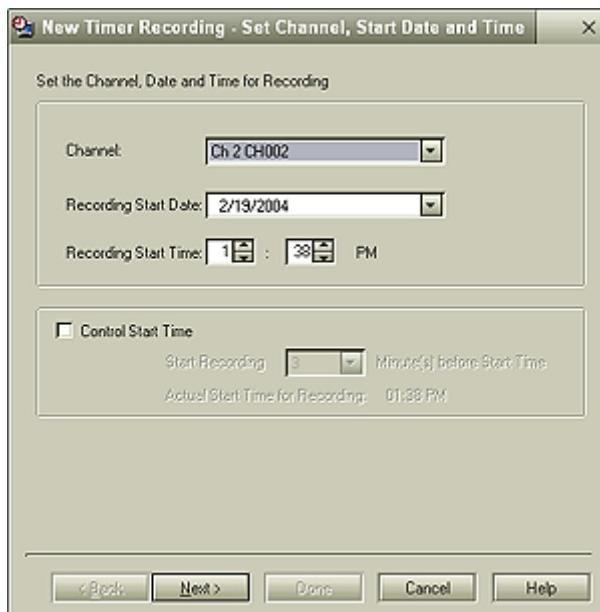
## Using the Timer Recording Wizard

1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, select **All Programs**, then select **Giga Pocket**.
2. Select **Timer Recording Wizard**. The **Timer Recording Wizard** dialog box appears.



3. Select the desired option from the **Select Timer Recording Settings** menu and click **Next**. Follow the on-screen instructions. Click **Help** if you need more information about selecting timer recording settings.

#### New Timer Recording - Set Channel, Start Date and Time

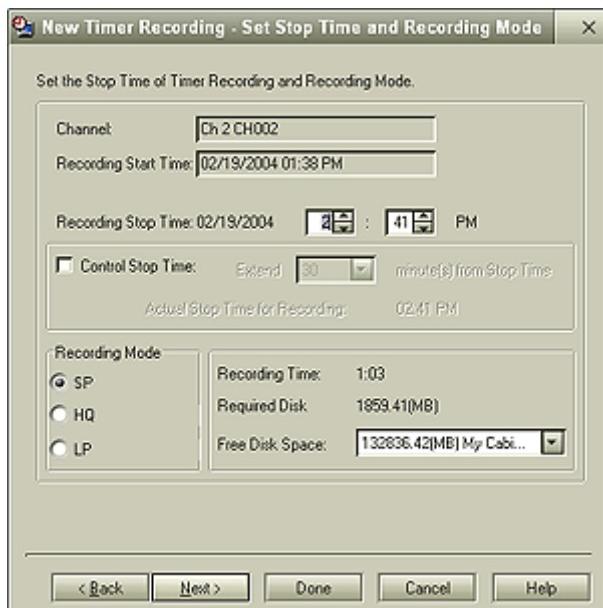


4. Verify that the information is correct and click **Next**. The programming station and time information is automatically programmed into the appropriate Timer Recording Wizard fields.
5. You can set the stop time for your timer recording and select the recording mode. The stop

time is automatically programmed into the Timer Recording Wizard. Verify the stop time, choose a recording mode, and then click **Next**.

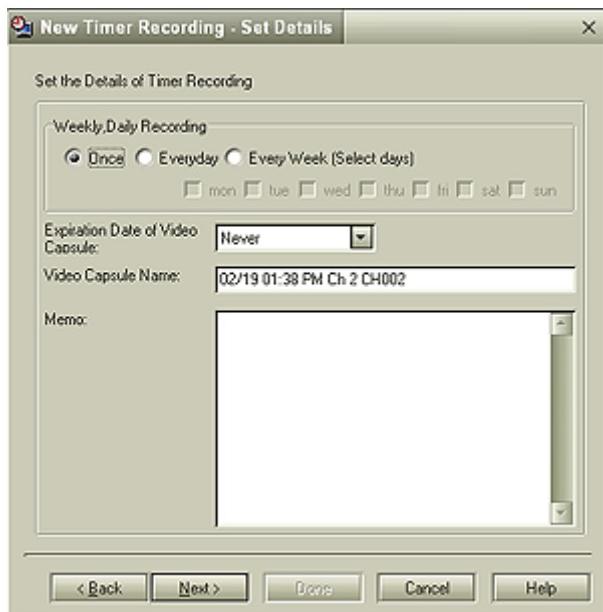
Recording Mode	Description
Standard Play (SP)	Standard recording mode (MPEG-2).
High Quality (HQ)	Image quality is improved, but recording requires more space on the hard disk drive as compared to using SP or LP recording modes (MPEG-2).
Long Play (LP)	Image quality is reduced, but recording requires less space on the hard disk drive as compared to using HQ recording mode (MPEG-1).

### New Timer Recording - Set Stop Time and Recording Mode



- From the **New Timer Recording - Set Details** dialog box, you can customize the timer recording schedule. Select how often you want to record the program.

### New Timer Recording - Set Details

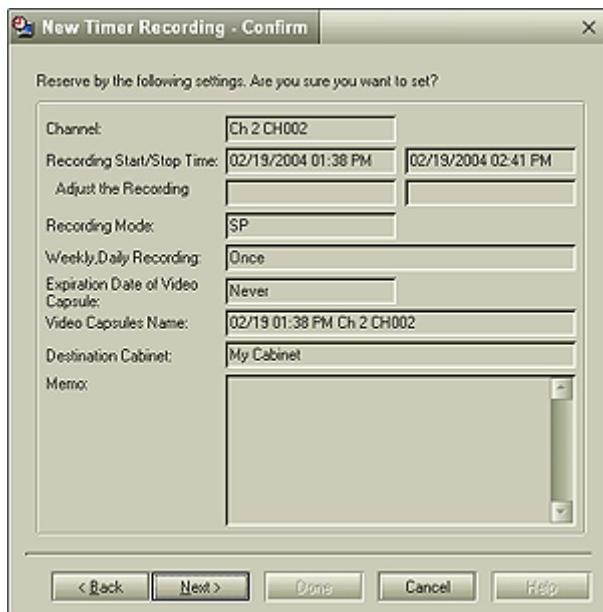


7. Select a date for the recorded program to be automatically deleted from your hard disk drive, using the **Expiration date of Video Capsule** drop-down list.

To maintain adequate space on your hard disk drive, Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder enables you to set an expiration date for your Video Capsules to be automatically deleted.

8. Click **Done** to review your setting preferences. The **New Timer Recording - Confirm** dialog box appears. Click **Next**.

#### New Timer Recording - Confirm



9. The **New Timer Recording - Completed** dialog box appears. Click **Finish**.

#### New Timer Recording - Completed



## Additional information about the Timer Recording Wizard

- | Timer recording requires approximately 30 seconds (pre-recording) preparation time prior to beginning each recording session. Please keep this in mind when setting up multiple, back-to-back recording sessions. Giga Pocket software stops the current timer recording, pauses to prepare, and then begins the next timer recording according to the set start time. The length of your first Video Capsule is approximately 30 seconds shorter than the actual time set.

You may experience some timing problems with multiple recording sessions when the second timer recording is preset as a daily or weekly recorded event. The first timer recording may end as early as 60 seconds sooner than the set stop time.

- | Scheduled daily or weekly timer recording sessions do not occur if your hard disk drive does not have sufficient space. Giga Pocket software does not allow a new Video Capsule to be created if there is less than 100 MB of free space on the hard disk drive. These scheduled events resume at their scheduled time, as hard disk drive space becomes available.
- | Approximately three minutes before Giga Pocket begins a timer recording and during a timer recording, you must avoid:
  - | Starting up or using other software applications.
  - | Setting up, changing, or deleting timer recordings.
  - | All activities that may access the hard disk drive, such as copying files.

## Accessing Giga Pocket Help

For more information about Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder, follow these steps:

1. Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar and select **All Programs**.
2. Select **Giga Pocket**, **Help**, and click **Giga Pocket Help**.

## Timer Recording Manager

The Timer Recording Manager keeps track of all scheduled TV recordings. Your computer settings, by default, are set to start Timer Recording Manager automatically when the computer is turned on.

Timer recordings are being performed when the icon  (Timer Recording Manager) is visible in the Windows taskbar. The timer recording does not start unless the Timer Recording Manager application is available. For the Timer Recorder Manager application to be available, your computer should be in Stand by or Hibernate mode, if the system is not in active use. You can schedule up to 100 programs at a time, for timer recording with the Timer Recording Manager.

 Microsoft® Windows® XP operating system supports a single Giga Pocket user at any given time. If a different user logs on using the fast switch feature, the Timer Recording feature is not available to another user account. The Timer Recording Manager icon appears in the taskbar of the first user to log on.

## Using the Timer Recording Manager

1. Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar, select **All Programs**, select **Giga Pocket**, and then click **All Software**.
2. Click **Timer Recording Manager**.

The **Timer Recording Manager** window appears.

Timer Recording Manager



- i **Windows Stand by** — Places the Windows operating system into Stand by mode until the preset timer recording is set to begin, or if a Video Capsule is set to expire. Windows automatically starts and performs the appropriate action.
- i **Interrupt Current Recording** — Stops the current timer recording. Use this option when you wish to end the current recording session.
- i **Timer Recording List** — Displays a list of timer recordings that have been performed, as well as pending timer recordings. If a daily/weekly timer recording is set, only the current recording session is shown.

 The total number of timer recordings displayed does not exceed 100.

Double-click on a recorded timer recording to start playback in Giga Pocket.

3. Click **Hide** to restore **Timer Recording Manager** to the taskbar.

 If you turn off your computer, the timer recording function is disabled.

## Viewing your selected program recording schedule

You can easily view the programs you have selected to record, using Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder. The Timer Recording Manager feature enables you to change or cancel your timer recording at any time.

To view your scheduled timer recordings, follow these steps:

1. Double-click on the **Timer Recording Manager** icon  , located in the Windows® taskbar.

Review your scheduled timer recordings and make any desired changes or cancellations.

2. Click **Hide** to return the icon to the taskbar.

 You do not have to be connected to the Internet to use the Timer Recording Manager feature.

## Additional information about the Timer Recording Manager

- | When creating a timer recording, it is important to remember the following information:
  - | The timer recording function is disabled if you turn your computer off.
  - | Your computer should be in Stand by or Hibernate mode, if the system is not in active use.
  - | Disable screensavers and any other applications that may access your computer's hard disk drive during the timer recording.
  - | If you are using a set-top box (STB), make sure it is turned on and set to the channel you want to record.
- | When you set up a timer recording using Giga Pocket software, always use the Timer Recording Manager. If the Timer Recording Manager is not set up, the recording does not start, even if you set the timer recording settings with the Timer Recording Wizard.

 Your computer's default setting enables Timer Recording Manager to start automatically when the computer is started.

- | The timer recording starts a few seconds earlier than the specified recording start time.
- | Under certain circumstances, a daily or weekly timer recording may not be executed the second and subsequent times.
- | A timer recording may fail if the computer's clock setting is changed right before the preset recording time. Before changing the computer's clock setting, verify that there are no timer recordings set to begin.

Close the Time Recording Manager before changing the computer's clock setting. Restart Timer Recording Manager after you have changed the time setting.

- If a different user logs on, using the Fast User Switch feature, the Timer Recording feature is not available to other user accounts. The Timer Recording Manager icon appears in the taskbar notification area for the first user to log on.

## Accessing Giga Pocket Help

For more information about Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder, follow these steps:

- Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar and select **All Programs**.
- Select **Giga Pocket, Help**, and click **Giga Pocket Help**.

## Giga Pocket Explorer

The Giga Pocket Explorer application serves as a file manager for your Video Capsules. Video Capsules are managed in Cabinets.

Giga Pocket Explorer enables you to play back Video Capsules using Giga Pocket. You can import MPEG files, that were created with compatible Sony applications, and export Video Capsules as AVI or MPEG files.

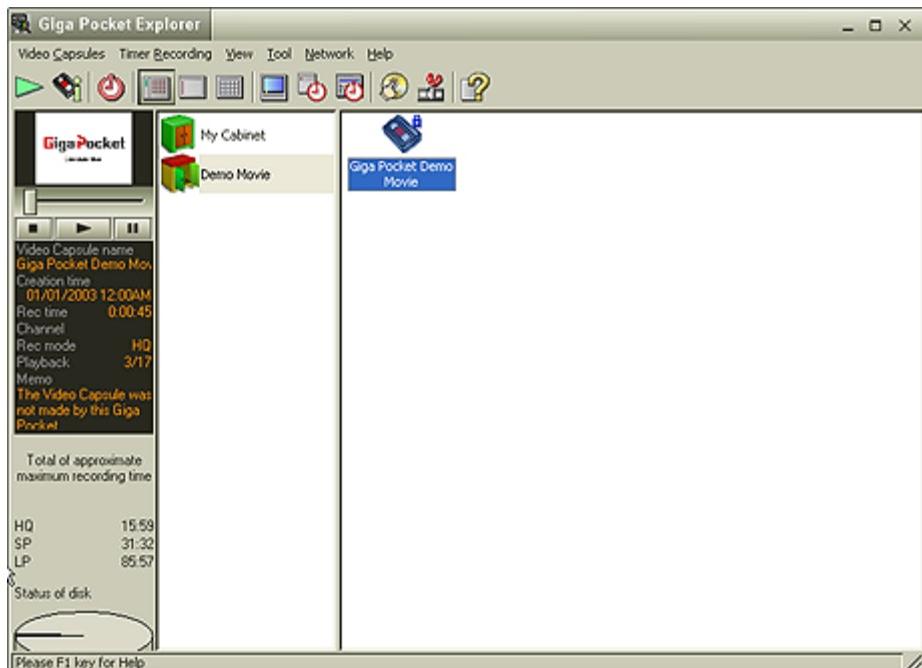
## Using Giga Pocket Explorer

- Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, point to **All Programs**, point to **Giga Pocket**, point to **Giga Pocket Explorer**.

The **Giga Pocket Explorer** main window appears.

- Click on the desired Cabinet to see a list of saved Video Capsules.

Giga Pocket Explorer



## Using the Giga Pocket Explorer Toolbar functions

From the Giga Pocket Explorer toolbar, you can:

- | Begin playing  a Video Capsule.
- | Display information  about a Video Capsule.
- | Set a new timer recording .
- | Change the display views for your video contents.
  - | Icon view .
  - | List view .
  - | Calendar view .
- | Start Giga Pocket  to play a selected Video Capsule.
- | Start Timer Recording Wizard  to set up timer recordings.
- | Access the Internet Electronic Program Guide  Web site.
- | Start Click to DVD™ software  to burn Video Capsules to DVD recordable media. See Click to DVD software Help for more details.
- | Start DVgate™ Plus software  to edit your Video Capsules.
- | Start Giga Pocket Help  to obtain further assistance.

## Accessing Click to DVD Help

For additional information about using Click to DVD™ software features, follow these steps to access the Help.

1. Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar and point to **All Programs**.
2. Point to **Click to DVD** and click **Click to DVD Help**.

## Accessing DVgate Plus Help

For additional information about using DVgate Plus™ software features, follow these steps to access the Help.

1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar and point to **All Programs**.
2. Point to **DVgate Plus** and click **DVgate Plus Help**.

## Recording Video Capsules onto recordable DVD media

You can record Video Capsules to recordable DVD media with the Make DVD feature.

 The Click to DVD™ software must be installed in order to burn Video Capsules to recordable DVD media.

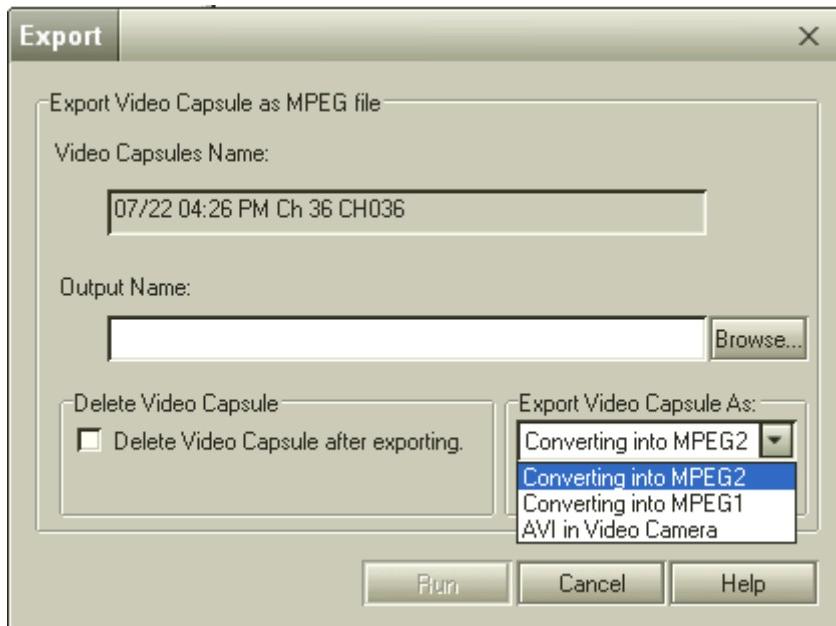
1. From the **Giga Pocket Explorer** main window, select the Video Capsules you want to burn onto a recordable DVD.
2. On the Giga Pocket Explorer Toolbar, click .
3. The Click to DVD software program starts. Follow the on-screen instructions.

## Exporting Video Capsules

You can export your Video Capsules as MPEG-1, MPEG-2, or AVI file formats for viewing on external media.

1. In the list area, right-click the Video Capsule you want to export. A shortcut menu appears.
2. Select **Export**. The **Export** dialog box appears.

## Export



3. Enter an output name for the file you want to export and specify the location for the exported file.

You can select the option, **Delete Video Capsule after export**. If you do not want to delete the Video Capsule after export, leave the option disabled.

4. In the section, **Export Video Capsule As:**, select to convert to an AVI, MPEG-1, or MPEG-2 format.
5. Click **Run** to begin exporting.

 Some conversion formats may not be available, depending on the recording mode that was used to create the Video Capsule.

## Additional information about using Giga Pocket Explorer

- | Video Capsules that are recorded using High Quality (HQ) or Standard Play (SP) mode can be converted and exported as MPEG-1, MPEG-2, and AVI files. If you wish to play your Video Capsule in a different system environment, you can convert and export your Video Capsule using MPEG- 1 format.
- | Video Capsules that are recorded using Long Play (LP) mode can be converted and exported as MPEG-1 files.
- | You can convert an imported MPEG file into a Video Capsule, only if the file was created using DVgate™ Plus or other VAIO AV software programs.

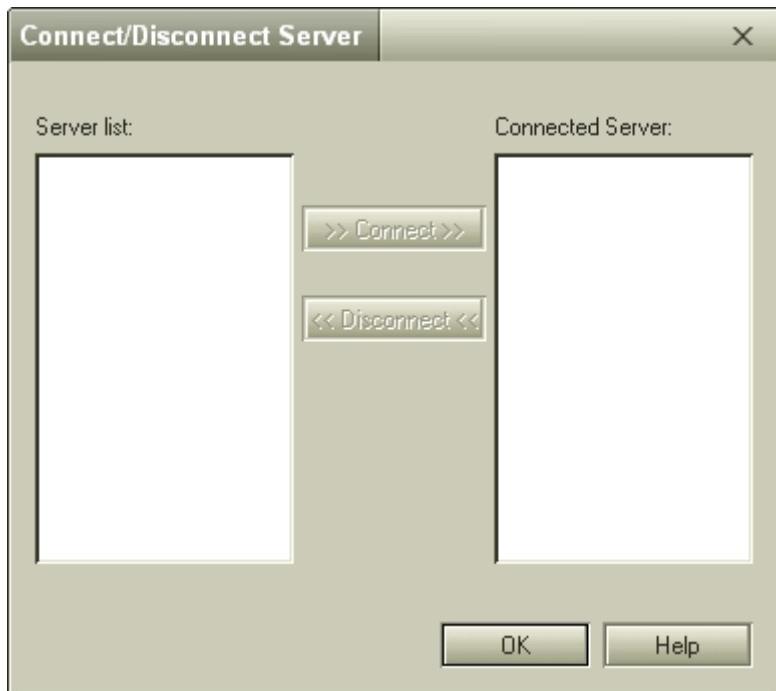
## Using Network Cabinets

Giga Pocket Explorer enables you to connect to Video Capsules in network cabinets located on other computers in a network. These network cabinets can be accessed through the Giga Pocket Explorer main window when you are connected to the network.

## Connecting to Network Cabinets

1. On the Giga Pocket Explorer menu, select **Network**, and then **Connect/Disconnect**. The **Connect/Disconnect Server** dialog box appears.

Connect/Disconnect Server



2. Select the server you want to connect to from the **Server list**.
3. Click **Connect** to add the selected server to the **Connected Server** list, then click **OK**. The server is connected.
4. To disconnect, repeat step 1, then select the server you want to disconnect from the **Connected Server** list.
5. Click **Disconnect**, then click **OK**. The server is disconnected.

## Accessing Giga Pocket Help

For more information about Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder, follow these steps:

1. Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar and select **All Programs**.
2. Select **Giga Pocket**, **Help**, and click **Giga Pocket Help**.

## CLIÉ Converter

The CLIÉ® Converter is a plug-in application that enables the conversion of Video Capsules. You can convert your Giga Pocket® Video Capsules and save to a Memory Stick® media, or HotSync® directly to your Sony® CLIÉ® Handheld. In order to use the CLIÉ Converter plug-in application, make sure you have installed all required software for the CLIÉ handheld.

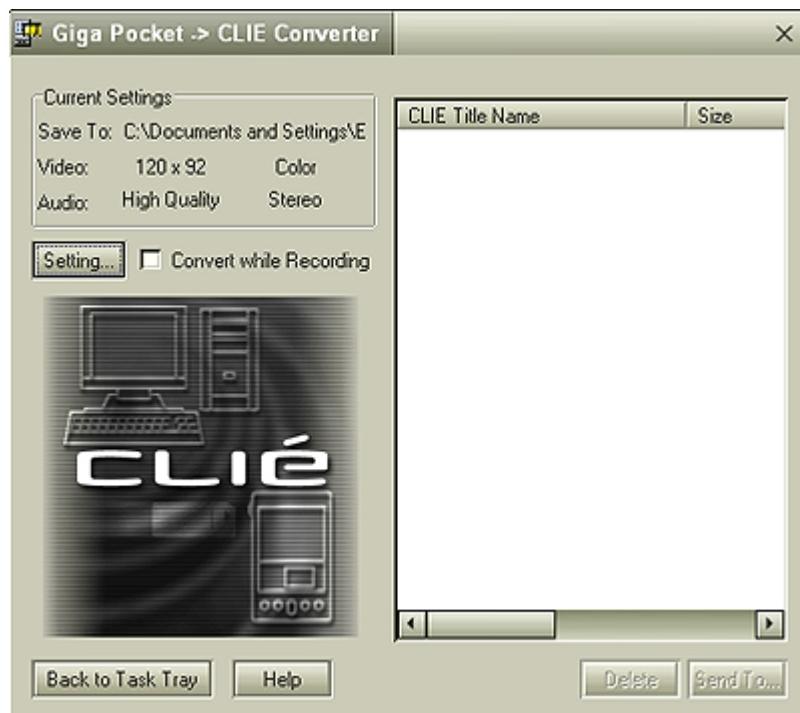
-  The Sony CLIÉ Handheld personal entertainment organizers provide a rich and compelling handheld computing experience. Powered by the Palm™ operating system, the CLIÉ handheld is ready to deliver music and video with amazing clarity. For more

information on this exciting device, go to the Sony Style Web site at <http://sonystyle.com/vaio/clie>.

## Starting CLIÉ Converter

1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar and point to **All Programs**.
2. Point to **Giga Pocket**, point to **Plug-ins**, and then click **CLIÉ Converter**. The **Giga Pocket -> CLIÉ Converter** main window appears.

Giga Pocket -> CLIÉ Converter



## Converting Video Capsules

1. From the **Giga Pocket -> CLIÉ Converter** window, click the **Setting...** button. The Settings dialog box appears. Enter your desired settings and click **OK**.
2. Start Giga Pocket Explorer as follows:
  1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, and then select **All Programs**.
  2. Select **Giga Pocket**, and then click **Giga Pocket Explorer**.
  3. Resize the **Giga Pocket Explorer** window so that the **Giga Pocket -> CLIÉ Converter** window is visible.
  4. Click on the **Cabinet** icon to display the contents in the list area.
  5. Drag the Video Capsule from the **Giga Pocket Explorer** window and drop it in the list area of the **Giga Pocket -> CLIÉ Converter** window. The Video Capsule automatically converts into a video file.

During conversion, the **Convert to CLIÉ** window appears, displaying the conversion status. When conversion is complete, the window automatically closes.

To convert multiple Video Capsules:

1. Hold down the **Ctrl** key while selecting Video Capsules in Giga Pocket Explorer.
2. Drag all selected Video Capsules to the **Giga Pocket -> CLIÉ Converter**

window.

-  The conversion process may take time, depending on the settings selected.

## Transferring converted video files to a Memory Stick media

1. Insert a Memory Stick® media into the Memory Stick media slot on your computer.
2. From the **Giga Pocket -> CLIÉ Converter** main window, click to select the videos you want to transfer to the Memory Stick media.
3. Click **Send To**. The **Send To** dialog box appears.
4. Select **Using Memory Stick** as the transfer destination. Click **OK**.

During transfer, the **Forwarding** dialog box appears, displaying the transfer status.

5. When transfer is complete, click **OK**.

Your converted video files can be played back on CLIÉ Handhelds that support the use of a Memory Stick media.

## Transferring converted video files using the HotSync operation

You can transfer your converted video files directly to your CLIÉ™ Handheld, when you start a HotSync® operation.

1. From the **Giga Pocket -> CLIÉ Converter** main window, click to select the videos you want to transfer using the HotSync operation.
2. Click **Send To**. The **Send To** dialog box appears.
3. Select **Using HotSync** as the transfer destination. Designate a user name, if applicable to your handheld's configuration. Click **OK**.
4. The **Send to HotSync** dialog box appears. Follow the on-screen instructions and click **OK**.

-  For more information about the HotSync operation, see the information supplied with your CLIÉ Handheld.

## Accessing CLIÉ Converter Help

For more information about using the CLIÉ Converter plug-in application, follow these steps:

1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar and point to **All Programs**.
2. Point to **Giga Pocket**, point to **Help**, and then click **CLIÉ Converter Help**.

## Glossary

The most common terms for Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder software are defined below.

<b>Cabinet</b>	A cabinet acts as a container for Video Capsules in Giga Pocket Explorer. A network cabinet is located on other computers in a network environment.
<b>CATV</b>	Refers to Community Access Television, otherwise known as cable television.
<b>Clip</b>	A clip is a movie or image that serves as video content material.

<b>Expiration date</b>	A Video Capsule is stored on the hard disk drive for a preset period of time. When this time has expired, the Video Capsule is automatically deleted.
<b>Film roll</b>	During Video Capsule playback, a snapshot view of the scenes are captured on a film roll. You can scroll freely through the film roll to view different scenes.
<b>HotSync®</b>	Registered trade name for the method of linking between a handheld device and a larger computer, such as a desktop or notebook computer.
<b>Management information</b>	Management information contains the creation date of Video Capsules and their thumbnails. This information is required for preview.
<b>MPEG file</b>	A file that contains compressed moving pictures using the MPEG standard, with.mpg as the file name extension.
<b>Safety Tab</b>	Removing the safety tab from a Video Capsule prevents accidental erasing of your video data.
<b>Slip play</b>	This feature allows you to view delayed video playback. While your recording is in progress, you are able to view the recording from the beginning.
<b>Snapshot</b>	A snapshot is a miniature view displayed on the film roll in Giga Pocket® and the preview monitor in Giga Pocket Explorer.
<b>Stand by mode</b>	Stand by mode is a power saving mode that is set up by using the Windows® operating system. Your computer stays in this power saving mode until approximately 5 minutes before the timer recording is due to begin.
<b>STB</b>	Refers to set-top box, also known as a cable or satellite box.
<b>Thumbnail</b>	A thumbnail is a miniature view on recorded Video Capsules or in playback by Giga Pocket. The main thumbnail is displayed in calendar view or in the Giga Pocket Explorer list area.
<b>Timer recording</b>	A timer recording is a preset video recording event.
<b>Video Capsule</b>	A Video Capsule is a virtual container that holds the video images recorded with Giga Pocket Recorder. A Video Capsule is created on your computer hard disk drive and managed with Giga Pocket Explorer.

## Accessing Giga Pocket Help

For more information about Giga Pocket, follow these steps:

1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar and point to **All Programs**.
2. Point to **Giga Pocket**, point to **Help**, and then select **Giga Pocket Help**.

## Internet Electronic Program Guide Service

Internet Electronic Program Guide is a free, online service that enables quick and easy access to your local TV listings. You can use the Internet Electronic Program Guide service with your Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder for a "one-click" set up of timer recordings and record your favorite TV programs<sup>1</sup>.

Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder must be set up and configured correctly before you can use the Internet Electronic Program Guide service.

- You must read and accept the User Agreement before accessing the Internet Electronic Program Guide Web site (first time only). The Internet Electronic Program Guide service is available only to users in the United States.

<sup>1</sup> Unauthorized duplication of audio or video files is a violation of applicable laws.

## Setting up your Internet Electronic Program Guide service

You must be connected to the Internet, before setting up your Internet Electronic Program Guide service.

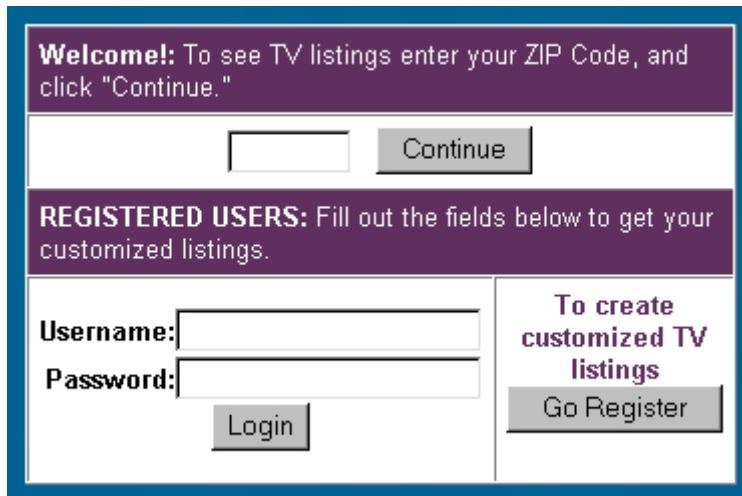
- Sony recommends using Microsoft® Internet Explorer as your Web browser to access the Internet Electronic Program Guide service.

To set up Internet Electronic Program Guide service, follow these steps:

1. Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar and point to **All Programs**.
2. Point to **Giga Pocket**, then click **TV Program Web site**. Microsoft® Internet Explorer starts, and you are directed to the Internet Electronic Program Guide Web site.
3. The **Terms of Use** window appears. Click **I accept**, to continue.

The **Welcome and Registration** window appears.

Internet Electronic Program Guide Welcome and Registration



4. In the **Welcome!** section, enter your 5-digit zip code and click **Continue**. The **Choose Your Provider** window appears, listing all TV providers or TV services available in your area.
5. Select your TV provider and then click **Confirm Channel Lineup**. The **Confirm Lineup** window appears, listing available channels by number and name.
6. Click **Yes** if the channel lineup is correct. If channel lineup is incorrect, click **No** and repeat steps 3 and 4 until you locate the correct channel lineup.
7. Your TV listings appear in table format, organized by time and channel. Click **Download All Channel Settings** to set your channels. The **TV Setup Wizard** appears, if this is the first time you have used this download feature. Click **OK**.

Close all Giga Pocket® applications before downloading your TV listings.

- If you are using set-top box (STB) mode, you do not need to click Download All Channel Settings. Giga Pocket only schedules timer recordings when using STB mode.
- 8. Verify the channel settings and click **OK**.
- 9. Your personal channel settings appear whenever you access the Internet Electronic Program Guide Web site.

- If your TV provider adds new channels or changes existing channels, an Update icon appears next to Download All Channel Settings. Click **Update** to add the new or updated channels to your personal channel setting.

# Configuring Your VAIO Computer

This section provides basic information about using i.LINK devices, Memory Stick media, PC Cards, and changing default settings.

- | [About i.LINK Compatibility](#)
- | [VAIO Action Setup](#)
- | [About the Memory Stick Media Slot](#)
- | [About the PC Card Slot](#)

## About i.LINK Compatibility

Your VAIO® computer may be equipped with a 4-pin and/or a 6-pin i.LINK® port, depending on the system configuration purchased. A 4-pin i.LINK port cannot supply power to a connected i.LINK device. A 6-pin i.LINK port can supply power (10V to 12V) to a connected i.LINK device, if the device is equipped with a 6-pin connector.

See the specifications sheet for your computer on the Sony Online Support Web site at <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport>, for details about your computer's hardware configuration.



The total power supplied by the 6-pin i.LINK port cannot exceed 6 watts.

### For PCV-V and PCV-W series models

Your PCV-V / PCV-W series computers have one 4-pin i.LINK port available to connect your digital devices. A 4-pin i.LINK port cannot supply power to a connected i.LINK device.

i.LINK is a trademark of Sony used only to designate that a product contains an IEEE 1394 connection. The i.LINK connection may vary, depending on the software programs, operating system and compatible i.LINK devices. All products with an i.LINK connection may not communicate with each other.



Refer to the documentation supplied with your compatible i.LINK device for information on operating conditions and proper connection. Before connecting compatible i.LINK devices to your system, such as an optical or hard disk drive, confirm their operating system compatibility and required operating conditions.

### Connecting an i.LINK (IEEE 1394) device

1. Use the  symbol to locate the i.LINK port on your compatible i.LINK device and on your computer. Plug the i.LINK cable connector into this port.
2. Plug the other end of the cable into the corresponding 4- or 6-pin i.LINK port on your computer.



See the instructions supplied with your i.LINK device for more information on installation and use.

## VAIO Action Setup

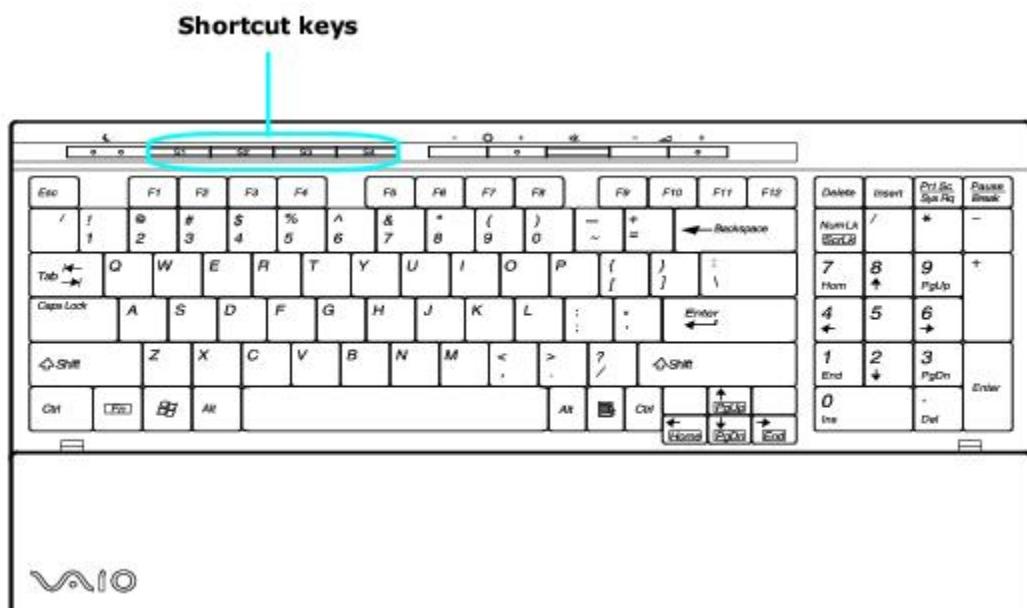
VAIO® Action Setup manages the settings for your computer's Shortcut keys (S Keys).

## Shortcut keys

The programmable S Keys are set to start the following software programs:

- | **S1 Video** — Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder (for models equipped with Giga Pocket features)
  - | **S1 Video** — DVgate Plus™
- | **S2 Internet** — Microsoft® Internet Explorer
- | **S3 Mail** — Microsoft® Outlook® Express
- | **S4 Help** — VAIO® Help Center

Wireless keyboard



## Changing the settings of the S keys

You can program the S keys to start other software programs.

1. Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar and select **All Programs**.
2. Select **S-key settings (VAIO Action Setup)**, then click **VAIO Action Setup**.

 Double-click the VAIO Action Setup icon, located in the Windows taskbar, to start VAIO Action Setup.

3. Click the S Key you want to change.
4. From the **Select Application** dialog box, click the option for the desired type of function. The corresponding software programs appear in the list box on the right.
5. Select a software program from the list. Click **Next**.
6. The **Confirm Application Name** window appears. Click **Next**.
7. You may now type a new name and description, if desired. Click **Finish**.

# About the Memory Stick Media Slot

Your VAIO® computer is equipped with a Memory Stick® slot that supports certain types of Memory Stick® media.

## About Memory Stick media

Memory Stick® media are a compact, portable, and versatile data storage media designed for exchanging and sharing digital data with compatible devices. The following types of Memory Stick media are available, but compatibility with your computer can vary.

- | **MagicGate™ Memory Stick® media (MagicGate Memory Stick media)** — Provides copyright protection with authentication and encryption, using Sony® MagicGate technology. Authentication ensures that protected content is only transferred between compliant devices and media. Protected content can be recorded and transferred in an encrypted format that prevents unauthorized duplication or playback. You can store different data formats on a single Memory Stick media.
- | **Memory Stick PRO™ media** — Provides MagicGate copyright protection and high-speed data transfer features when used with compatible Memory Stick PRO devices. VAIO® computers support Memory Stick PRO media for data storage purposes only. Currently, high-speed data transfer and the MagicGate technology features, such as authentication and encryption, are not available. You can store different data formats on a single Memory Stick media.
- | **Memory Stick® media** — Provides data storage only. The Memory Stick media does not provide MagicGate technology or high-speed data transfer. You can store different data formats on a single Memory Stick media.

Currently, Sony® SonicStage™ and OpenMG™ software are not compatible with the new Memory Stick PRO media. Sony suggests using only MagicGate Memory Stick media to store and transfer any data created with SonicStage or OpenMG software.

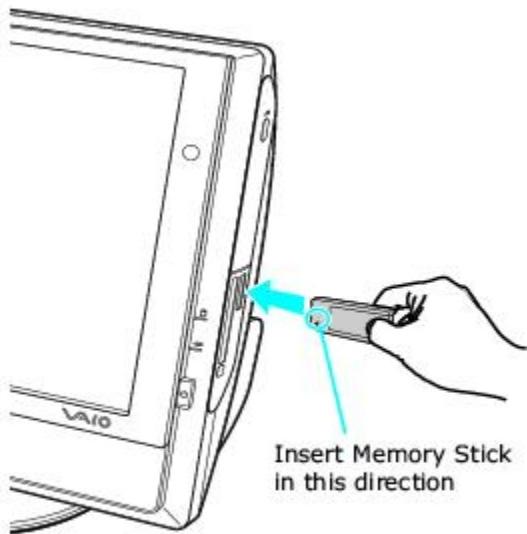
Visit the Sony Online Support Web site at <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport> regularly for the latest information on Memory Stick® media.

- | Memory Stick media do not support AVI file playback. Copy the AVI file to your hard disk drive before attempting to play back the file.

## To insert a Memory Stick media

1. Insert the Memory Stick® media into the Memory Stick media slot, located on the right panel.

Inserting a Memory Stick media



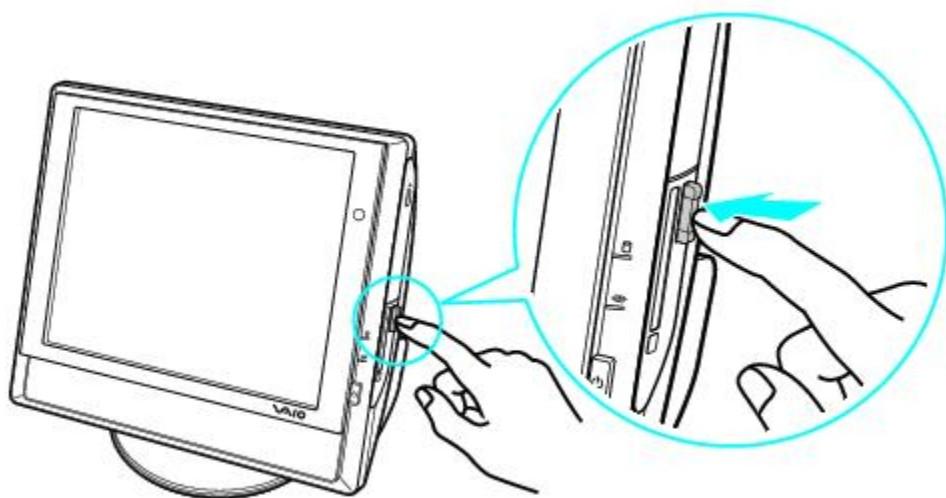
2. If the media does not insert easily, remove it from the slot and verify that it is not upside-down or backwards. Carefully reinsert the Memory Stick media, but do not force it into the slot.

### To remove a Memory Stick media

A small portion of the Memory Stick® media remains extended when it is inserted into the Memory Stick media slot.

1. Press the extended Memory Stick media to release it from the Memory Stick slot. The media extends further, enabling you to grasp it.

#### Removing a Memory Stick Media



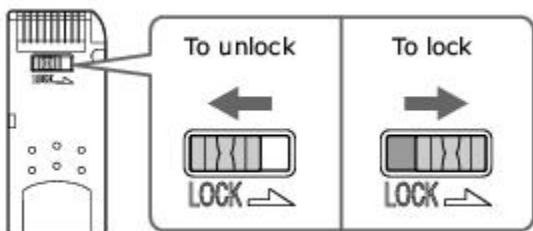
2. Carefully remove the Memory Stick media from the slot.

**⚠** Do not remove the Memory Stick media while the media access indicator light is on.  
The media or its data may become damaged.

## Protecting data on Memory Stick media

Memory Stick media contain a write-protect tab. The write-protect tab prevents accidental changes to information recorded on your Memory Stick media. When you slide the write-protect tab to the LOCK position, your Memory Stick media is write-protected. You cannot delete, copy, or save information on the media while the write-protect tab is in the LOCK position. When you slide the tab to the un-LOCK position, you can write to or modify your Memory Stick media's contents.

### Locking the Memory Stick Media



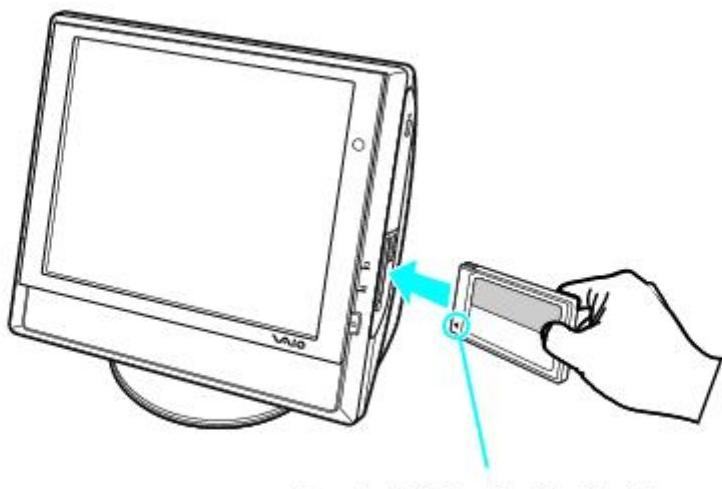
## About the PC Card Slot

Your computer has a card bus PC Card slot that supports Type I or Type II PC (PCMCIA) Cards. You do not need to turn off your computer when inserting a PC Card. See the instructions supplied with your PC Card for more information.

### Inserting a PC Card

1. With the card's label facing forward, insert the PC Card into the PC Card slot.

#### Inserting a PC Card



Insert a PC Card in this direction

2. Push the PC Card gently into the slot. The card is automatically detected.

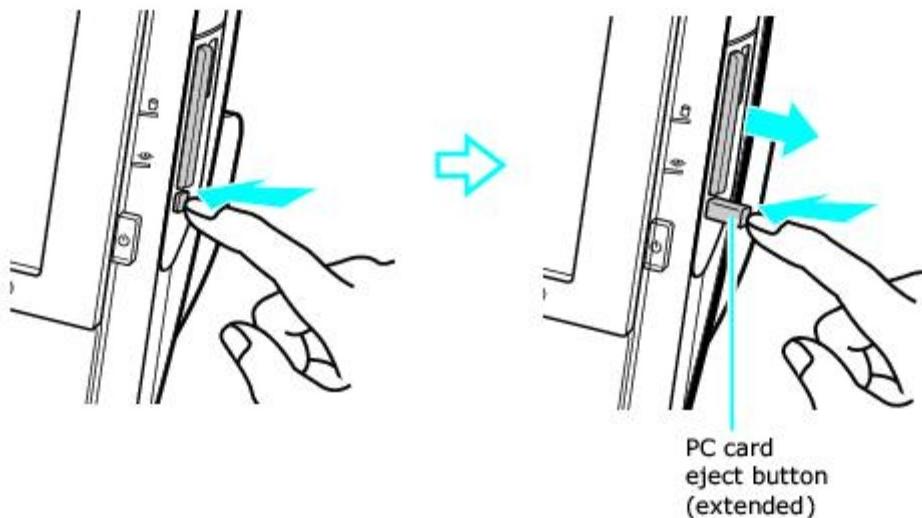
If the PC Card does not insert easily, remove it from the PC Card slot and verify that it

 is not upside-down or backwards. Carefully reinsert the PC Card, without forcing it into the slot.

## Removing a PC Card

1. Close all software programs that may access the PC Card, to avoid data loss.
2. Double-click the  **Safely Remove Hardware** icon in the Windows® taskbar.
3. Click to select the name of the card that you want to eject and click **Stop**. The **Stop a Hardware Device** window appears. Click **OK**.
4. When the message **Safe to Remove Hardware** appears, push the PC Card Eject button on the right panel of the computer. Extend the Eject button out from the computer before attempting to eject the card.

### Removing a PC Card



5. When the PC Card ejects from the PC Card slot, remove the card by holding the edges and pulling it out carefully.

 If you remove the PC Card incorrectly, your computer may not work properly.

# Upgrading and Maintaining Your VAIO Computer

In the future you may want to increase the functionality of your VAIO® computer. This section provides information about upgrading your system.

- | [Overview](#)
- | [Installing Memory](#)
- | [Replacing the Lithium Battery](#)
- | [Replacing a Hard Disk Drive](#)

## Overview

Sony recommends contacting your local dealer for upgrade or maintenance of your new computer. Your local dealer is knowledgeable of this specialized personal computer and familiar with the safety practices and regulatory compliance required for modifying electronic equipment.

-  See the specifications sheet for your computer on the Sony Online Support Web site at <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport>, for details on your computer's hardware configuration.

## Installing Memory

The amount of preinstalled memory can vary, depending on the system configuration purchased. See the specifications sheet for your computer on the Sony Online Support Web site at <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport>, for details about the memory installed in your computer.

### Before upgrading your computer

Disconnect the computer from its power source and from telecommunications links, networks, or modems before you open the unit or follow any procedures described in this section.

-  Failure to disconnect your computer from its power source may result in personal injury or equipment damage. Always turn the power off before you open the system or connect your computer to peripheral equipment. Otherwise, damage may occur to the integrated circuits in your computer.

Your computer may not be equipped with all of the hardware features mentioned in this section. The interior hardware configuration of your system may vary from the illustrations, depending on the computer purchased. To view the specific hardware configuration for your system, see the online specifications sheet.

-  You may need to temporarily remove add-on cards or other components that may be near the slot cover you plan to remove.

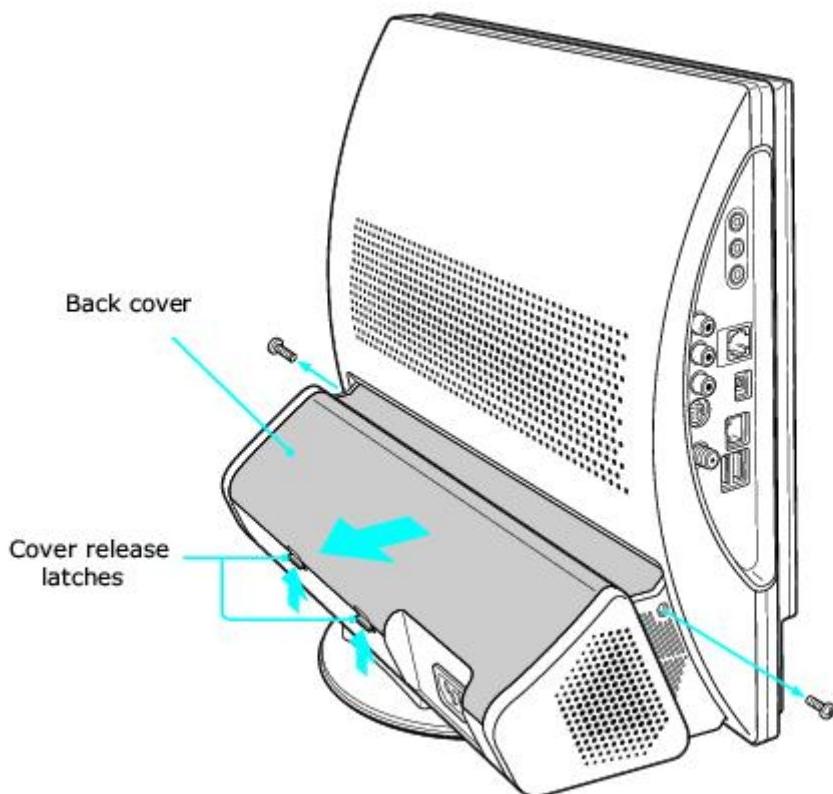
-  Electrostatic discharge (ESD) can damage disk drives, add-on cards, and other components. Follow the procedures described here only at an ESD workstation. If such a station is not available, do not work in a carpeted area and do not handle materials that produce or hold static electricity (for example, cellophane wrappers). Ground yourself by maintaining continuous contact with an unpainted metal portion of the chassis while

performing the procedure.

## Removing the back cover

1. Shut down your computer and turn off all peripheral devices, such as your printer.
2. Unplug your computer and disconnect any peripheral devices.
3. Remove the screws, located on the sides of the system unit, as shown.

Removing the back cover



4. Press the cover release latches on the front of the cover, pulling the cover forward to remove.

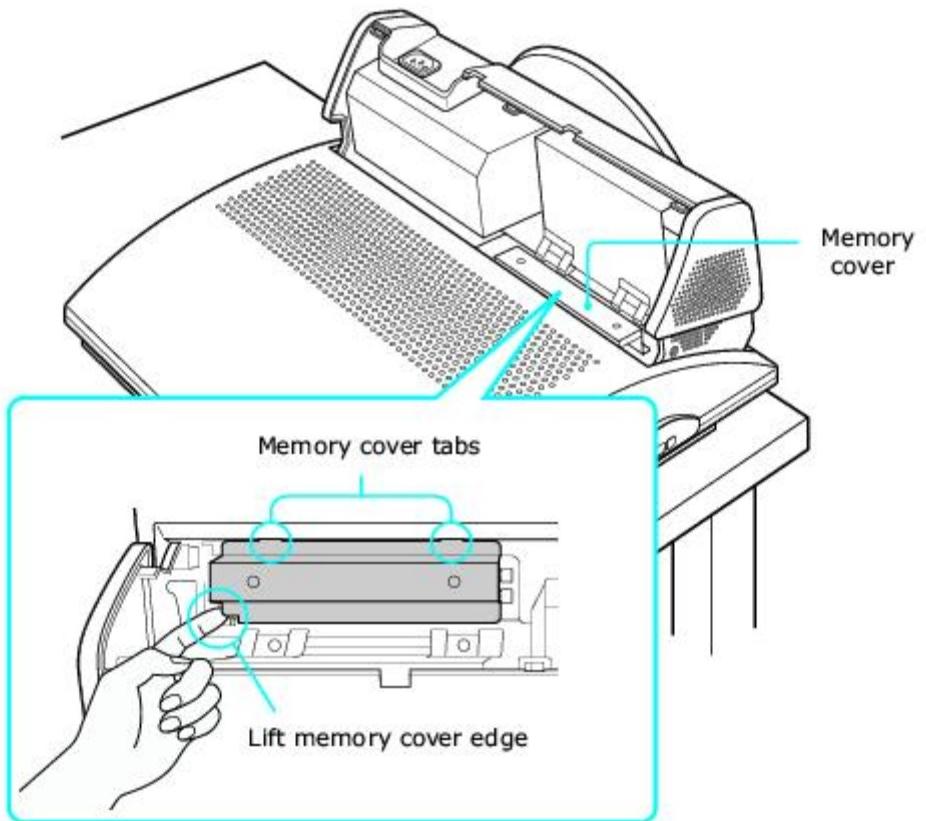
## Removing the memory cover

1. Gently place the system unit on a flat and stable surface, with the LCD screen facing down.

**!** Use caution when placing the LCD screen face-down on a table or other flat surface.  
The work surface must be free of dirt or debris that may damage the screen.

2. Lift the lower edge of the memory cover and disengage the memory cover tabs from the notches on the chassis.

Removing the memory cover

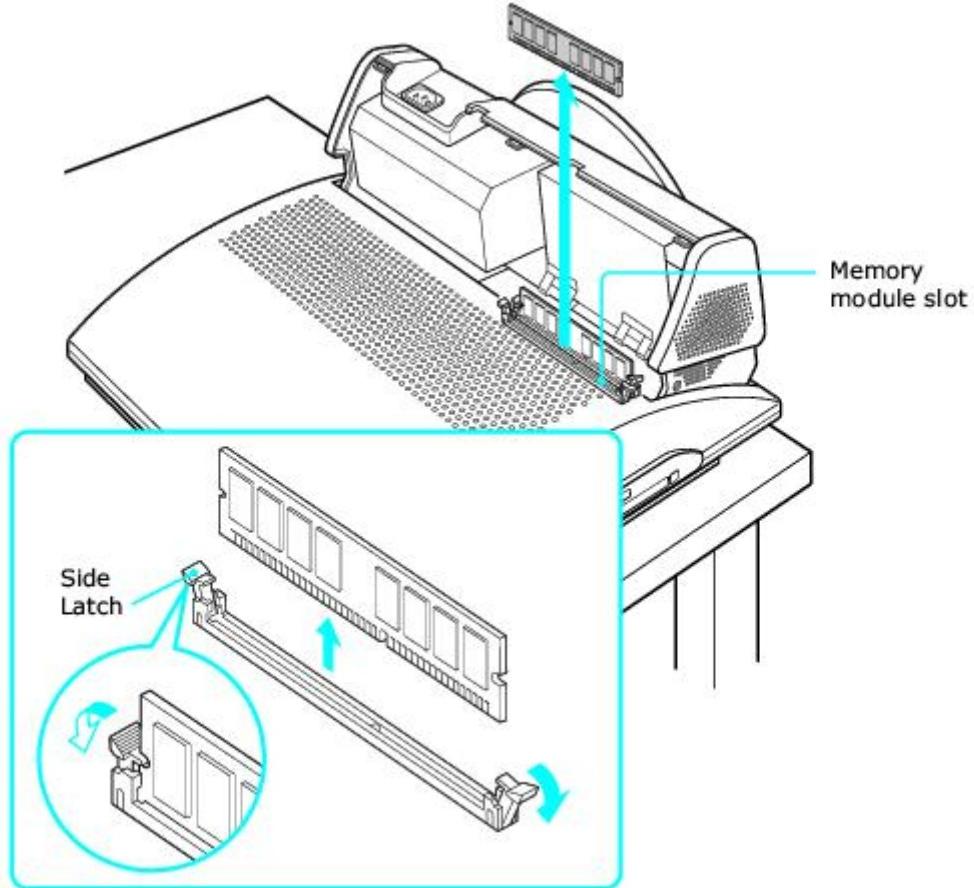


3. Remove the memory cover to access the memory module slots.

### Removing a memory module

1. Locate the memory module(s) you wish to remove.
2. Push down on the latches, located on both sides of the module, to gently eject it from the slot.

Removing a memory module

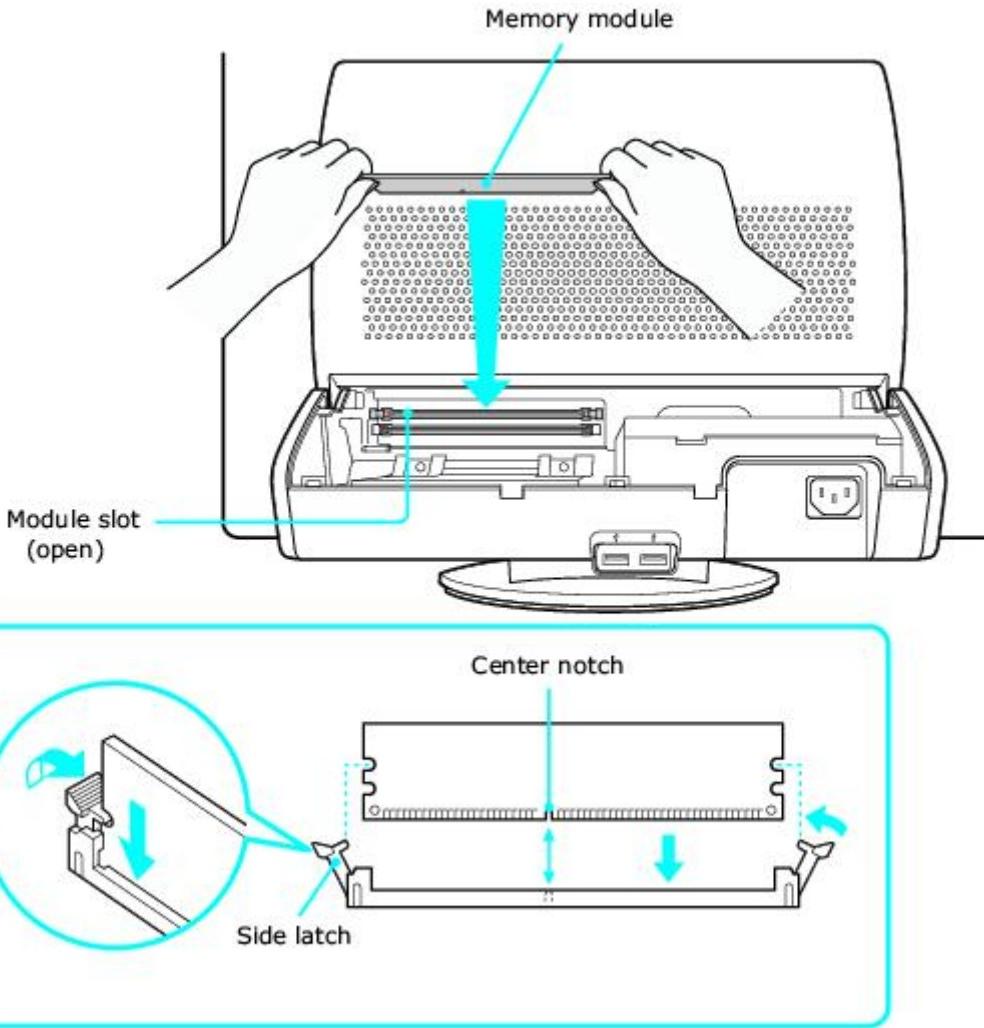


3. Grasp the memory module by the sides and remove from the system unit. Store the module in a static-free bag.

## Installing a memory module

1. Remove the memory module from its anti-static package, handling it by the edges.
2. Locate the center notch on the bottom edge of the memory module and align it to the center notch in the open module slot.

Installing a memory module



3. Firmly insert the bottom edge of the module into the slot by pressing down evenly against the module's upper corners.

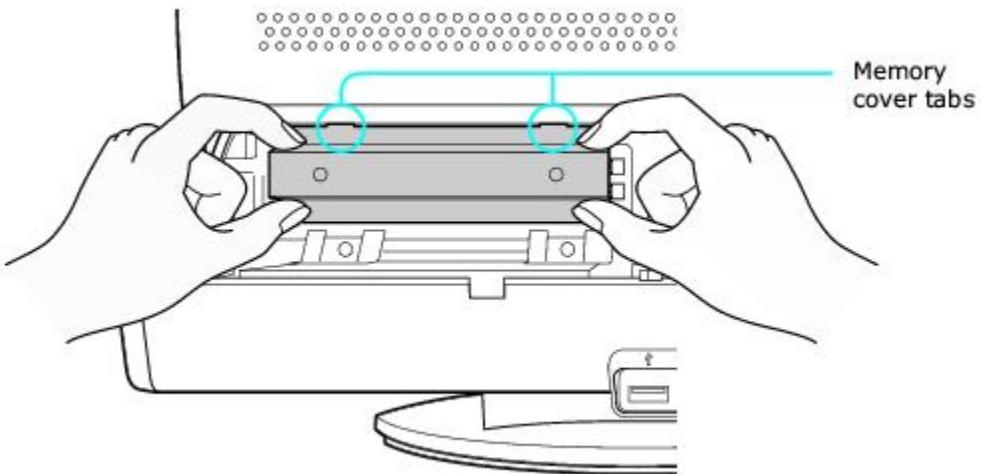
The side latches snap into position, holding the memory module in place.

**⚠️** To avoid damaging a memory module or the memory module slot, move the side latches slightly outward to relieve pressure. The module is properly inserted when the side latches click into place.

## Replacing the memory cover

1. Align the memory cover tabs to the notches on the chassis.
2. Gently press down on the memory cover until the cover snaps into place.

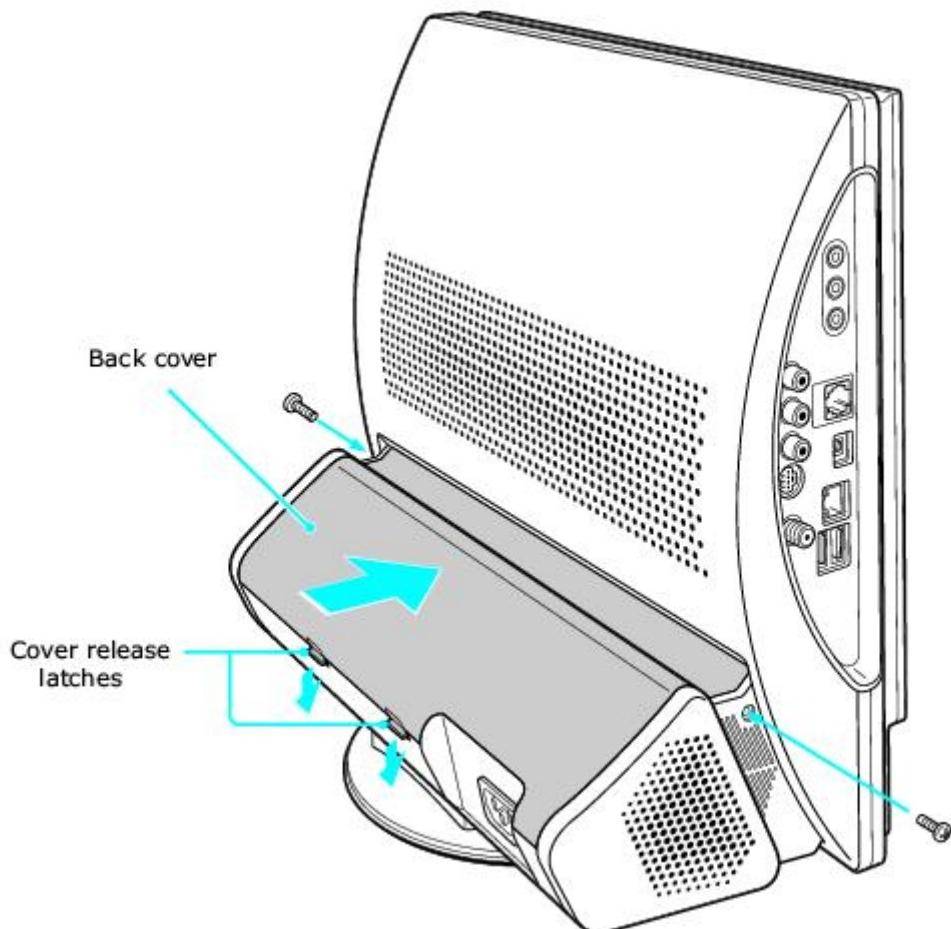
Replacing the memory cover



## Replacing the back cover

1. Gently slide the back cover in, until the cover release latches lock the cover into place.
2. Replace the screws, located on the sides of the system unit, as shown.

Replacing the back cover



## Replacing the Lithium Battery

The lithium battery weakens after several years and the system settings, such as the date and time stored in CMOS RAM, may become inaccurate. If this occurs, contact your local dealer to replace the lithium battery.

There is danger of the battery exploding if it is replaced incorrectly. Contact your local dealer to replace the lithium battery. Replace the battery only with a CR2032-type lithium battery.

-  Dispose of the lithium battery properly. In some areas, the disposal of lithium batteries in household or business trash may be prohibited. You can return your unwanted lithium batteries to your nearest Sony Service Center or Factory Service Center. To locate a Service Center near you, visit the Sony Computing Web site at <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport>.

## Replacing a Hard Disk Drive

Your computer has an installed ATA-100, 3½-inch hard disk drive. Do not attempt to replace the hard drive. Contact your local dealer for replacement or upgrade of the hard disk drive.

# Troubleshooting

This section describes how to troubleshoot common problems. You can also find helpful information on how to use your computer's hardware features and preinstalled software. Your computer may not be equipped with all of the features or software discussed in this section, depending on the system configuration purchased.

- | [About VAIO Computer Functions](#)
- | [About System Security](#)
- | [About Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder](#)
- | [About Using the Optical Disc Drive\(s\)](#)
- | [About the Mouse and Keyboard](#)
- | [About the Modem](#)
- | [About the Speakers](#)
- | [About Using a Microphone](#)
- | [About Using Peripheral Equipment](#)

## About VAIO Computer Functions

### My computer does not start.

- | Verify that the computer is plugged into a power source and that it is turned on. Check that the power indicator is lit on the front panel of the computer.
- | Confirm that a disk is not in the floppy disk drive<sup>1</sup> (unless you are using a bootable floppy disk).
- | Confirm that a CD is not in an optical drive (unless you are using a bootable CD).
- | Confirm that the power cord and all cables are connected firmly.
- | If you plugged the computer into a power strip or Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS), make sure the power strip or UPS is turned on and working.
- | Verify that the monitor is plugged into a power source and turned on.

If your system has a built-in monitor, confirm that it is plugged into an appropriate power source and that the system is turned on.

- | Verify that the brightness or contrast control dials are adjusted correctly. (See the manual supplied with your display for details.)
- | Confirm that the computer is not in Stand by mode by pressing any key on the keyboard.

<sup>1</sup> Certain VAIO computers are not equipped with a floppy disk drive. You can purchase this equipment separately.

### What can I do if my computer or software stop responding?

You can try to locate and close the software program that has stopped responding.

1. Press the **Ctrl+Alt+Delete** keys. The **Windows Task Manager** window appears.
2. From the Applications tab, locate the software program that has the status message, "**Not responding**."
3. Select the software program that has a **Not Responding** status and click **End Task**. Windows attempts to close the program.

If your computer does not respond or the software program does not close:

1. Save and close any open files, if possible.
2. Press the **Alt+F4** keys. The **Shut Down Windows** window appears.
3. Click the drop-down list box and select **Restart**.
4. Click **OK**. The computer turns off and restarts.

If the **Shut Down Windows** window does not appear:

1. Press **Ctrl+Alt+Delete**. The **Windows Task Manager** window appears.
2. Click **Shut Down**.
3. Restart your computer.

If your computer still does not respond and you cannot restart, shut down your computer by pressing and holding the power button for more than six seconds.

If the software program continues to stop responding or causes your computer to stop responding, contact the software publisher or designated technical support provider.



Pressing and holding the power button for more than six seconds may result in the loss of data from files that are currently open.

## Why does the Windows operating system stop responding during shutdown?

The Windows operating system may not shut down properly for many reasons, including incompatible or conflicting drivers, damaged files, or non-responsive hardware. For troubleshooting information, you can search Windows Help.

1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar and select **Help and Support**. The **VAIO Help And Support Center** menu appears.
2. Select **Fixing a Problem** and then select **Startup and Shut Down problems**. A list of specific problem topics appears on the right side of the window.
3. Select **Startup and Shutdown Troubleshooter**. Follow the on-screen instructions according to your specific situation.

## Why is my system running slowly?

- | The system responsiveness varies depending with the number of software programs that are open and running. Close any programs that you are not currently using.
- | Increasing the system memory may also help. For information on installing memory, please see the online VAIO User Guide.

To access the online User Guide:

1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, and then click **Help and Support**.
2. From the **VAIO Help And Support Center** menu, click **VAIO User Guide**.

## How do I change the video resolution of my display?

1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, and then select **Control Panel**.
2. Select **Appearance and Themes**, and then select **Change the screen resolution**.
3. Click the **Settings** tab.
4. Change the Screen resolution and Color quality to the desired levels.
5. Click **Apply** and then click **OK**.

## Why doesn't my computer resume normal operation from Stand by mode?

- | If your keyboard has a Stand by key , press it briefly to resume normal operation.
- | If your keyboard is not equipped with a Stand by key, press any key to resume normal operation.
- | For troubleshooting information, you can search Windows Help.
  1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar and select **Help and Support**. The **VAIO Help And Support Center** menu appears.
  2. Select **Fixing a Problem** and then select **Startup and Shut Down problems**. A list of specific problem topics appears on the right side of the window.
  3. Select **Startup and Shutdown Troubleshooter**. Follow the on-screen instructions according to your specific situation.

## About System Security

This section provides information about keeping your computer operating smoothly and protecting against potential threats to your system security.

### How can I protect my system against security threats, such as viruses?

The Microsoft® Windows® operating system is preinstalled on your computer. The best way to protect your computer against security threats, such as viruses, is to download and install the latest Windows updates regularly.

You can get important Windows updates by doing one of the following:

- | **The Automatic Updates** feature — This feature automatically searches for and delivers updates directly to your computer whenever you are connected to the Internet.
- | **The Windows Updates Web site** — This site enables you to download computer updates without turning on the **Automatic Updates** feature.

 Your computer must be connected to the Internet before you can receive updates.

### To use the Automatic Updates feature

1. Connect to the Internet.
2. Click the **Automatic Updates**  icon in the Taskbar notification area.

The **Automatic Updates Setup Wizard** appears.

3. Click **Next**, and follow the on-screen instructions to set up automatic or scheduled updates.

### To visit the Windows Updates Web site

1. Connect to the Internet.
2. Type <http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com/> in the address bar of your browser.

The **Microsoft Windows Update** and **Security Warning** windows appear.

3. In the **Security Warning** window, click **Yes to install and run Windows Update**.
4. In the **Microsoft Windows Update** window, click **Scan for updates**, and follow the on-

screen instructions.

## What is the best way to set up firewall protection for my computer?

Using firewall protection is an important way to protect your computer from security threats that may occur when your computer is connected to the Internet. Your computer's preinstalled Microsoft® Windows® operating system has a built-in Internet Connection Firewall (ICF) feature that you can use to protect your computer.

Using the ICF feature may interrupt the file and print sharing features for preinstalled networking software programs, such as VAIO Media™ software. As an alternative, Sony suggests installing a router as a hardware-based firewall solution. A router box protects your computer and allows your network to run without interruption.

### To disable the ICF feature

1. Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar, and then click **Control Panel**.
2. Click **Network and Internet Connections**.
3. Click **Network Connections**.
4. In the section, **LAN or High-Speed Internet**, right-click the icon of the connection you want to protect.

A shortcut menu appears.

5. Select **Properties** from the shortcut menu.
6. On the **Advanced** tab, under **Internet Connection Firewall**, clear the check box for **Protect my computer and network by limiting or preventing access to the computer from the Internet**.
7. Click **OK** to disable the ICF feature.

## How do I keep my preinstalled antivirus software updated?

You can keep the preinstalled Norton Internet Security™ software program current with the latest updates from Symantec Corporation.

### To download and install the latest security update

1. Double-click the **Norton Internet Security** icon  in the Taskbar notification area.

If you have not previously registered the antivirus software, a series of information wizards appear.

1. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete each wizard
2. Double-click the **Norton Internet Security** icon again.

The **Norton Internet Security** window appears.

 If you have previously registered this antivirus software, the **Norton Internet Security** window automatically appears.

2. Click **Live Update**, located near the top of the window.
3. Follow the on-screen instructions to select and download updates.

# About Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder

## Why can't I see an image or an image that is displayed properly when I am using a VCR?

Some images from an externally-connected video player device or a video game console, may not display or are not displayed correctly. These images include:

- | Images from a playback screen that is in pause mode.
- | Menu screens of the connected video player device.
- | The end of the film roll being played back using the scroll bar.
- | Video output from a video game console.
- | Video output from a VCR, using a coaxial cable.

Giga Pocket® cannot record or display all video images from this source.

## Why does my Giga Pocket viewing window or the images played back from a Video Capsule, appear distorted or corrupted?

There are some situations where screen or image distortion may occur, such as:

- | When you change the channel on the video player device.
- | If there is a damaged section on your video tape.

When using Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder, set your display settings as follows:

- | **Colors** — Use the default factory settings (32-bit).
- | **Screen area** — Set your video resolution to 1024 x 768 pixels.

### For PCV-W series models

Do not change the default factory settings for color or the screen area. If you use different settings, you may experience poor image quality.

## Why does my system seem to slow down when I play a Video Capsule?

Your computer may respond slower if you try to play back a Video Capsule while recording a TV program with Giga Pocket. During a timer recording, Giga Pocket may interrupt or stop your Video Capsule playback to prioritize your computer's resources for the timer recording. If this occurs, wait until the timer recording session has completed, and then play back the Video Capsule.

## Why did I get the error message, "Event buffer of audio overflow?"

The timer recording may fail in certain situations, such as:

- | The coaxial cable (input) is disconnected after recording has started.
- | The TV channel has lost broadcast signal during the recording session.
- | Video content being recorded has poor signal quality.

## Why did my on-screen display shift or split?

Your on-screen display may shift or split in rare instances. If this should occur, switch the

TV/Recording deck and the playback deck, or try switching the channel. Your timer recording continues even if the on-screen display has shifted or split.

## Why can't I create new Video Capsules?

You cannot create new Video Capsules when the remaining free space on your hard disk drive reaches approximately 100 MB. Delete any unnecessary Video Capsules or files to increase the free space on your hard drive.

## About Using the Optical Disc Drive(s)

Your computer may not be equipped with all of the hardware features listed in this section. To view the specific hardware configuration for your system, see the specifications sheet for your computer on the Sony Online Support Web site at <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport>.

### Why doesn't my optical drive tray open?

#### To use the Eject button

1. Make sure the computer is turned on.
2. Press the Eject button on the drive.

#### To use the My Computer icon

1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, then select **My Computer**.
2. Right-click the appropriate optical drive icon.
3. Select **Eject** from the shortcut menu.

 Avoid using adhesive labels to identify your CD or DVD media. Adhesive labels may come off while the CD or DVD media is in use in your optical drive(s) and may cause damage to the unit.

### Why can't I play a DVD or CD media?

- | After inserting your CD or DVD, wait a few seconds for the system to detect it before trying to access it.
- | Confirm that the disc is in the tray with the label side facing up.
- | Install your CD or DVD software according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- | If your drive reads some DVDs or CDs, but not others, check the shiny side of the disc for dirt or scratches.
- | The preinstalled CD or DVD software may not be working properly. To recover this software, see the online guide, *VAIO Recovery Options*, for more information.

To access *VAIO Recovery Options*, follow these steps:

1. Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar and click **Help and Support**.
2. From the **VAIO Help And Support Center** menu, click **VAIO Recovery Options**.

### Why isn't my DVD playing properly?

- | If a region code warning appears when you are using a DVD player software program, it may be that the region code of the DVD you are trying to play is incompatible with the region code

setting of your optical drive. A region code is listed on the disc packaging. Region code indicators such as "1" or "ALL" are labeled on some DVDs to indicate the type of player that can play the disc. Unless a "1" or "ALL" appears on the DVD or on its packaging, you cannot play the disc on this system.

- | If you hear audio but cannot see video, your computer's video resolution may be set too high. To improve video resolution, verify that your screen area is set to 1024 x 768<sup>1</sup>, using 32-bit color (preset factory default). To verify or change your video resolution:
  1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar and then select **Control Panel**.
  2. Select **Appearance and Themes**, then select **Change the screen resolution**.
  3. Click the **Settings** tab.
  4. Change the **Screen resolution** and **Color quality** to the desired levels.
  5. Click **Apply** and then click **OK**.
- | If you see video but cannot hear audio, check all of the following:
  - | Verify that your DVD player's mute feature is turned off.
  - | Check the master volume setting in the Audio Mixer.
  - | Check the volume settings on your computer speakers.
  - | Check the connections between your speakers and the computer.
- | Verify that devices and/or drivers are installed properly, by following these steps:
  1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, then select **Control Panel**.
  2. Click **Performance and Maintenance** and then click **Systems**. The **System Properties** window appears.
  3. From the **Hardware** tab, select **Device Manager** to view the status of connected or installed devices.
  4. If a listed device appears with a question mark or exclamation mark, you may need to troubleshoot the device or reinstall the driver.
- | A dirty or damaged disc may also cause the computer to stop responding while it tries to read the disc. If necessary, remove the disc and check that it is not dirty or damaged.
- | The preinstalled CD or DVD software may not be working properly. For information about recovering preinstalled software, see the online guide, *VAIO Recovery Options*.

<sup>1</sup> The default video resolution settings may vary between different VAIO® computer models.

## About the Mouse and Keyboard

### Why doesn't my mouse work properly?

- | Confirm that the mouse is plugged securely into the mouse port. If you are using a USB mouse, verify that the mouse is plugged securely into the appropriate USB port.
- | Save and close all open software programs. Turn off your computer, wait approximately 10 seconds, and then restart your computer.
- | The mouse driver(s) may not be working properly.

### Using an optical mouse

If you are using an optical mouse<sup>1</sup>, use an appropriate surface to ensure proper mouse tracking. A good surface requires a certain amount of detail or texture to enable mouse tracking.

- | Use surfaces such as plain paper, card stock, or fabric that do not have a lot of repetitive patterning.
- | Avoid surfaces such as mirrors, smooth glass, or magazines.
- | Avoid possible damage to easily-scratched surfaces by using a mouse pad.
- | Avoid surfaces that may damage or soil your optical mouse. Dirt or damage may cause the mouse to malfunction.

- | If the cursor is not moving properly, try using the mouse on another surface or using a mouse pad.

## Using a standard ball mouse

If you are using a standard ball mouse, there may be dust or dirt inside the mouse mechanism. To clean the mouse, follow these steps:

1. Save and close all software programs, and turn off your computer.
2. Turn the mouse upside down.
3. Remove the mouse ball cover on the back of the mouse by turning clockwise the ring that covers the mouse ball.
4. Turn the mouse upright, and drop the mouse ball into your hand.
5. Using a piece of tape, remove any dust or dirt on the mouse ball and inside the mouse ball socket.
6. Return the mouse ball to the socket, and replace the mouse ball cover. Secure the cover by turning the ring counter-clockwise.

## Using a wireless optical mouse

If you are using a wireless optical mouse:

- | Confirm that the supplied AA batteries are properly installed.
- | Press the **CONNECT** button on the mouse and the computer to reestablish the connection between the two devices.
- | Verify the infrared receiver on the computer's front panel is free of obstructions that may prevent proper operation.
- | Avoid using radio-controlled toys or equipment, CB radios, and other wireless devices in the area near your wireless mouse. These devices may cause interference, causing your mouse to stop working properly.
- | Do not place metal furniture near your computer or wireless mouse, as this may create interference, causing your mouse to stop working properly.

<sup>1</sup> For wireless or standard optical mice.

## How do I set up my mouse for left-hand use?

1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, then click **Control Panel**.
2. Click **Printers and Other Hardware**, then click **Mouse**. The **Mouse Properties** dialog box appears.
3. From the **Buttons** tab, select **Switch primary and secondary buttons** under the **Button Configuration** options.
4. Click **Apply**, then click **OK**.

## Why doesn't my keyboard work properly?

- | Check that the keyboard<sup>1</sup> is securely plugged into the keyboard port.
- | Save and close all open software programs. Turn off your computer, wait approximately 10 seconds, and then restart your computer.
- | If you are using a wireless keyboard:
  - | Confirm that the supplied AA batteries are properly installed. For proper installation of the AA batteries, see the documentation supplied with your equipment.
  - | Press the **CONNECT** button on the keyboard to reestablish the connection between the

two devices.

- | Verify the infrared receiver on the computer's front panel is free of obstructions that may prevent proper operation.
- | Avoid using radio-controlled toys or equipment, CB radios, and other wireless devices in the area near your wireless keyboard. These devices may cause interference, causing your keyboard to stop working properly.
- | Do not place metal furniture near your computer or wireless keyboard, as this may create interference, causing your keyboard to stop working properly.

[1](#) The VAIO "W" series computer has a built-in keyboard.

## About the Modem

### Why is my modem connection slow?

Many factors can influence modem connection speed, such as:

- | Telephone line noise.
- | Incompatibility with other telephone equipment such as fax machines or other modems.
- | Internet Service Providers (ISP) connection capability may vary.

If you think your modem is not connecting properly to other PC-based modems, fax machines, or your ISP, check the following:

- | Contact your telephone company and ask them to verify that your telephone line is free from line noise.
- | If your problem is fax-related, check that there are no problems with the fax machine you are calling and that it is compatible with fax modems.
- | For optimum performance, verify that your ISP point of presence (POP) telephone number is compliant with V.90 standards.
- | If you are having a problem connecting with your ISP, check that they are not experiencing technical problems.
- | Try connecting your modem through another telephone line, if available.

### Why doesn't my modem work properly?

Your modem may be experiencing equipment or software conflicts. If your modem is not functioning properly, check the following:

- | Check that the telephone line is plugged into the modem line jack.
- | Check that the telephone line is working properly. You can verify the line by plugging in an external device such as a standard telephone or fax machine and listening for a dial tone.
- | Check that the access telephone number (POP) is correct.
- | All software programs that are preinstalled by Sony are compatible with your computer's modem. If you have installed other software, contact the software publisher for information on how to configure the software in order to recognize the modem.
- | If it appears that your modem is not functioning properly, check the device status.
  1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, then click **Control Panel**.
  2. Click **Printers and Other Hardware** and then select **Phone and Modem Options**.
  3. From the **Modems** tab, click to select your modem.
  4. Click **Properties**. The **Modem Properties** window appears.
  5. Review the information in the **Device status** section. If your modem is not working properly, click the **Troubleshoot** button. The **Help and Support Center** window

appears.

6. Follow the on-screen instructions to resolve the problem.
  - | The modem driver(s) may not be working properly.

## How do I change my modem to rotary or touch-tone dialing?

1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, then click **Control Panel**.
2. Click **Printers and Other Hardware**, then click **Phone and Modem options**.
3. From the **Dialing Rules** tab, click **Edit**. The **Edit Location** dialog box appears.
4. Select the **Tone** or **Pulse** option. Click **OK**.

## How do I set up a dial-up connection?

After you have connected your computer's modem cable, follow these steps to set up your dial-up connection to the Internet:

1. Click **Start** from the Windows taskbar and select **All Programs**.
2. Point to **Accessories**, point to **Communications**, and then click **New Connection Wizard**.  
The **New Connection Wizard** appears.

The **Location Information** and the **Phone and Modem Options** windows appear,  
 when using your computer for the first time. Enter your information as requested and continue to the **New Connection Wizard** window.

3. Follow the on-screen instructions to finish setting up your dial-up connection.

## About the Speakers

### Why is there no sound in any software program?

- | Check that the speakers are plugged into the Headphones jack.
- | If your speakers have a mute button, verify that it is turned off.
- | If your speakers are powered by batteries, verify that the batteries are inserted properly and that they are charged.
- | If your speakers use an external power source, verify that the power cord is plugged into a grounded wall outlet or power strip.
- | If your speakers have volume control, check the volume level.
- | You may not hear sound from your speakers if headphones are connected to your computer.
- | If the software program you are using has its own volume control, check that the volume is turned up.
- | Check the volume controls in the Windows® operating system using these steps:
  1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, then select **Control Panel**.
  2. Select **Sounds, Speech, and Audio Devices**, then click **Adjust the system volume**.
  3. From the **Volume** tab, adjust the Device volume by moving the slider bar to the desired sound level. Verify that the **Mute** option is not selected.
- | Check that the **Mute** check box is not selected in the **Volume Control** window.
- | The sound driver(s) may not be working properly.

### For PCV-W series models

- | Adjust the volume control dial, located on the left panel, to adjust speaker volume.
- | The speakers continue to produce sound while headphones are connected. To use your own

headphones, adjust the computer's volume control dial, to mute the sound from the built-in stereo speakers.

## For PCV-V series models

Adjust the speaker volume by pressing the volume control buttons located on the wireless keyboard.

# About Using a Microphone

## Why doesn't my microphone work properly?

Check that the microphone is plugged into the Microphone jack.

## Why is my microphone so sensitive to background noise?

If you find there is too much background noise when you record sound, you should adjust the microphone by following these steps:

1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, then click **Control Panel**.
2. Click **Sounds, Speech, and Audio Devices**, then click **Sounds and Audio Devices**.
3. From the **Audio** tab, locate the **Sound recording** section and click **Volume**. The **Recording Control** dialog box appears.

If the volume control for the microphone is visible, skip to step 6.

4. Select the **Options** menu and click **Properties**. The **Properties** dialog box appears.
5. In the section, **Show the following volume controls**, click to select the **Microphone** check box. Click **OK**.
6. From the **Recording Control** dialog box, decrease the microphone volume level by moving the slider bar down.
7. Close the **Recording Control** dialog box and then close the **Sounds and Audio Devices Properties** window.

# About Using Peripheral Equipment

## How do I install a printer?

- | Connect your USB or IEEE 1394 printer to the appropriate port on your computer's front, back or side panels<sup>1</sup>. If your printer has a USB, IEEE 1394, or infrared connection, contact the printer manufacturer for information or updates that may be required for proper installation.
- | Check the printer manufacturer's Web site for the latest drivers for your operating system before proceeding with installation. Some printers do not function properly without the updated drivers for specific operating systems.
- | To install your printer, follow these steps:
  1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar, then click **Control Panel**.
  2. Click **Printers and Other Hardware**, then click **Add a Printer**.

The **Add Printer Wizard** appears.

3. From the **Add Printer Wizard**, click **Next**.
4. Select **Local Printer**, then click **Next**.

 Place a check mark in the box, **Automatically detect and install my Plug and Play printer**, if you are installing a recently manufactured printer equipped with Plug and Play capability.

5. Select the appropriate port, usually LPT1 if using the parallel port, and then click **Next**.
  6. Select the appropriate printer manufacturer and model.
  7. Follow the on-screen instructions to print a test page and complete printer installation.
- | If the printer is not included in the list, but the printer manufacturer provides a disk with the appropriate Windows XP Printer driver:
    1. Choose **Have Disk**.
    2. Enter the appropriate path for the disk or CD, and click **OK**.
  - | If the printer is not included in the list, and no drivers are provided with the printer:
    - | Select a similar printer that your printer may emulate.
    - | Refer to the user manual or guide supplied with your printer.
    - | Visit the printer manufacturer's Web site for technical support.

[1](#) The location of the connection ports for peripheral equipment may vary, depending upon your computer's hardware configuration.

### **The connected printer does not function properly when the computer resumes from a power saving mode.**

- | Clear the printer memory by turning the printer off for approximately 10 seconds, and then turning it back on.
- | If your printer does not resume normal operations, try restarting your computer.

# Notes On Use

The information in this section provides basic procedures for handling your system and common peripheral devices, using storage media, and locating upgrade procedures. A support resource listing is also provided to help you locate the appropriate support options.

- | [About the Power Source](#)
- | [About Using Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder](#)
- | [About Handling the Computer System](#)
- | [About Disposing of the Lithium Battery](#)
- | [About Handling a Monitor \(Display\)](#)
- | [About Recording and Data Storage Media](#)

## About the Power Source

Before opening your computer, turn the system off and let it cool down for 10 minutes. This protects you against internal components that may be too hot to handle.

- | Your computer operates on 100-120 V AC 50/60 Hz only.
- | Plug all the power cords for your computer and its peripheral equipment into the same AC supply line. AC derived from different supply lines may result in voltage differences that can cause unstable operation or unwanted weak currents at the time of connection.
- | Do not share the AC outlet with any other power-consuming equipment, such as copying machines or shredders.
- | You can purchase a power strip with a surge protector. This device prevents damage to your computer caused by sudden power surges such as those that may occur during an electrical storm.
- | If you live in an area that experiences frequent power fluctuations, you may want to purchase an Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS). This device contains both a surge protector and a battery backup. The surge protector prevents damage to your computer caused by power surges. The battery backup safeguards your data during a brief period of power loss.
- | The power control button on the front panel does not turn off the system AC power. To remove power from the system, you must turn off the computer and then unplug the AC power cord from the wall outlet or power strip.
- | Do not place heavy objects on the power cord.
- | Do not operate the system with the cover removed. Always reinstall the cover before turning on the system.
- | To disconnect the cord, pull it out by the plug. Never pull the cord itself.
- | Unplug your computer from the wall outlet if you do not intend to use the computer for a long time.
- | Do not attempt to open the power supply. There are no user-serviceable parts in the power supply. To avoid personal injury or damage to your equipment, refer the repair or replacement of the power supply to qualified personnel only.

## About Using Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder

The information in this section provides guidelines to follow when using Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder.

### Display setup

Always set up your display as follows when you use Giga Pocket:

- | Color quality: Use factory default settings (32-bit).
- | Screen resolution: Set to 1024 x 768 pixels. Using other display settings may cause an improper screen image or an incorrect recording by Giga Pocket software.

 Some displays may require the screen resolution to be set to 1280 x 1024 pixels. For information on your display's setting requirement, see the instructions supplied with your display.

- | Check your display setup in the Microsoft® Windows® operating system before starting up Giga Pocket software. For more information, refer to the operating system manual.
- | Do not change the display setup while Giga Pocket is running, or your system may operate improperly.

## Hard disk drive

- | When the available free space on your hard disk approaches 100 MB, you are not able to create a new Video Capsule. Delete unnecessary Video Capsules or files in order to increase available space on your hard disk drive.
- | If you directly delete, move, or rename a file in the D:\Giga Pocket folder, Giga Pocket Personal Video Recorder features may not work properly.

## Network

Microsoft® Windows® XP operating system supports a single Giga Pocket user at any given time.

If a different user logs on using the Fast Switch Feature:

- | Giga Pocket is not available to other user accounts. For more information, see Giga Pocket Help.
- | The Timer Recording feature is not available to other user accounts. The Timer Recording Manager icon appears in the taskbar notification area for the first user.

## About Handling the Computer System

Your computer uses high-frequency radio signals and may cause interference to radio or TV reception. If this occurs, relocate the computer a suitable distance away from the TV or radio equipment.

- | Do not place your Sony computer in a location subject to:
  - | Heat sources, such as radiators or air ducts
  - | Direct sunlight
  - | Excessive dust
  - | Mechanical vibration or shock
  - | Strong magnets or speakers that are not magnetically shielded
  - | Ambient temperature of more than 95°F (35°C) or less than 50°F (10°C)
  - | High humidity, moisture, or rain
- | Do not place electronic equipment near your computer. The computer's electromagnetic field may cause a malfunction.
- | Provide adequate air circulation to prevent internal heat build-up. Do not place your computer on loose surfaces (such as rugs or blankets) or near materials (such as curtains or draperies) that may block its ventilation slots. Leave a space of at least 8 inches from the back panel of your computer.

- | Clean the cabinet with a soft, dry cloth or a soft cloth lightly moistened with a mild detergent solution. Do not use any type of abrasive pad, scouring powder, or solvent such as alcohol or benzine, as it may damage the finish of your Sony computer.
- | Should any solid object or liquid fall into the cabinet, keyboard, or mouse, shut down your computer and then unplug it. You may want to have the computer checked by qualified personnel before operating it any further.
- | Use only specified peripheral equipment and interface cables; otherwise, problems may result.
- | Do not use cut or damaged connection cables.
- | Always switch the power off before connecting your computer to peripheral equipment; otherwise, damage may occur to the integrated circuits in your computer.
- | Your computer, keyboard, and mouse consist of high-precision electronic parts. Do not drop them or bump them against other objects.
- | Your Sony computer does not work with party lines, cannot be connected to a coin-operated telephone, and may not work with multiple telephone lines or a private branch exchange (PBX).
- | If the telephone company makes a service call to your home or office and determines that your computer is responsible for the problem, the telephone company may bill you for the service call. If you do not disconnect your computer when it is adversely affecting the telephone line, the telephone company has the right to disconnect your service until you correct the problem.

## **Moisture condensation**

If your computer is brought directly from a cold location to a warm one, moisture may condense inside your computer. In this case, allow at least an hour before turning on your computer. If any problem occurs, unplug your computer, and contact your Sony Service Center.

## **Wireless devices**

Wireless devices, such as a wireless keyboard or mouse, requires unobstructed communication with your computer for proper operation.

- | Do not exceed a maximum distance of 2 feet between your VAIO® computer and your wireless device.
- | Verify that any infrared receiver(s) on the computer or wireless device is free of obstructions that may prevent proper operation.
- | Confirm that the supplied AA batteries are properly installed in the wireless device.
- | Use the **CONNECT** buttons on the wireless device and your computer, if available, to establish communication between the equipment.
- | Avoid using radio-controlled toys or equipment, CB radios, and other wireless devices in the area near your wireless keyboard. These other devices may cause interference, causing your wireless keyboard or mouse to stop working properly.
- | Do not place metal furniture near your computer or wireless device, as this may create interference, causing your wireless device to stop working properly.

## **The hard disk drive**

- | Do not place the computer in a location that is subject to vibration or shock.
- | Do not move the computer during operation.
- | Do not subject the computer to sudden changes in temperature.
- | Do not turn off the power while the computer is accessing the hard disk drive.

## **About Disposing of the Lithium Battery**

Dispose of the lithium battery properly. In some areas, the disposal of lithium batteries in household or business trash may be prohibited. You can return your unwanted lithium batteries to your nearest Sony Service Center or Factory Service Center. For the Sony Service Center nearest you, visit the Sony Online Support Web site at <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport>.

Do not handle damaged or leaking lithium batteries. The lithium battery may explode if mistreated. Do not disassemble it or dispose of it in fire.



Replace the battery with a Sony CR2032 lithium battery. Using a type of battery other than a CR2032 may present a risk of fire or explosion.

## About Handling a Monitor (Display)

- | DVD playback and certain video-related software may not function correctly when your monitor is set to a high refresh rate. If your monitor does not play back video content properly, try setting the display to a lower refresh rate.
- | Do not place the display near a strong magnetic force.
- | Do not block the ventilation slots on the display.
- | Using the computer in low temperature conditions may produce a residual image on the screen. This is not a malfunction. When the computer returns to normal temperature, the screen returns to normal.
- | A residual image may appear on the screen if the same image is displayed for a lengthy period of time. The image disappears after a period of time. You can use a screen saver to prevent residual images.
- | The screen becomes warm during operation. This is normal and does not indicate a malfunction.

## About handling an LCD monitor<sup>1</sup> (display)

- | Do not place the display near a strong magnetic force.
- | Do not block the ventilation slots on the display.
- | Using the computer in low temperature conditions may produce a residual image on the screen. This is not a malfunction. When the computer returns to normal temperature, the screen returns to normal.
- | A residual image may appear on the screen if the same image is displayed for a lengthy period of time. The image disappears after a period of time. You can use a screen saver to prevent residual images.
- | The screen becomes warm during operation. This is normal and does not indicate a malfunction.
- | Do not leave the LCD in direct sunlight, as this may damage the screen. Use caution when using the computer near a window.
- | Do not exert pressure on the LCD or scratch the surface, as this may cause the screen to malfunction.
- | The LCD screen is manufactured using high-precision technology. On occasion, you may see tiny black or colored points on the LCD. This is normal and does not indicate a malfunction.
- | Avoid rubbing the screen, as this can damage the LCD. Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the display.

<sup>1</sup> The PCV-W and PCV-V series models have a built-in LCD monitor.

## About Recording and Data Storage Media

## **Handling CD or DVD media**

- | Do not touch the surface of the disc.
- | Do not drop or bend the disc.
- | Do not use adhesive labels to identify the disc. The label may come off while the disc is in use in the optical drive and damage the drive.

## **Cleaning CD or DVD media**

- | Fingerprints and dust on the surface of a disc may cause read errors. Proper care of the disc is essential to maintain its integrity. Do not use solvents such as benzine, thinner, commercially available cleaners or anti-static spray, as they may cause damage to the disc.
- | For normal cleaning, hold the disc by its edge and use a soft cloth to wipe the surface from the center out.
- | If the disc is badly soiled, moisten a soft cloth with water, wring it out well, and use it to wipe the surface of the disc from the center out. Wipe off any remaining moisture with a dry soft cloth.

## **Using Memory Stick media**

- | MagicGate™ Memory Stick and Memory Stick PRO™ media are the only media that support MagicGate technology. Currently, Sony® SonicStage™ and OpenMG™ software are not compatible with the new Memory Stick PRO media. Sony suggests using only the MagicGate Memory Stick media to store and transfer any data created with SonicStage and OpenMG software.
- | Currently, the Memory Stick slot on VAIO® computers may not support all of the high-speed data transfer or access control features of the new Memory Stick PRO media. You can use the new Memory Stick PRO media as you would use a standard Memory Stick® media.
- | Visit the Sony Online Support Web site at <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport> regularly for the latest information on the new Memory Stick PRO media.

## **Using CompactFlash and SmartMedia cards**

Certain VAIO® computers support CompactFlash and SmartMedia cards. See your computer's specifications sheet on the Sony Online Support Web site at <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport>, for more information about your computer's hardware configuration. Visit this Web site regularly for the latest information on CompactFlash and SmartMedia cards.

## **Using MultiMedia (MMC) and Secure Digital (SD) media cards**

Certain VAIO® computers are equipped with a CompactFlash®/MicroDrive media slot<sup>1</sup> that supports both CompactFlash® and Microdrive media. This media slot also supports MultiMedia (MMC)<sup>2</sup> and Secure Digital (SD)<sup>3</sup> media cards, when used with an optional SD/MMC adapter<sup>4</sup>.

- | Always insert an MMC or SD media card into an SD/MMC adapter before attempting to use with your computer.
- | Do not attempt to insert any other type of media card into an SD/MMC adapter. An incompatible media card may be difficult to remove from the adapter and can cause harm to your computer, if you attempt to use it in your computer's CompactFlash/MicroDrive media slot.
- | Do not attempt to insert another media card adapter into an SD/MMC adapter, such as a Mini SD adapter. The media card adapter may be difficult to remove from the SD adapter and can

cause harm to your computer, if you attempt to use it in your computer's CompactFlash/MicroDrive media slot.

## Handling floppy disks<sup>5</sup>

- | Do not open the shutter manually and touch the surface of the floppy disk.
- | Keep floppy disks away from magnets.
- | Keep floppy disks away from direct sunlight and other heat sources.

<sup>1</sup> See the online specifications sheet for more information about your computer's hardware configuration.

<sup>2</sup> A MultiMedia card is a small, high-capacity data storage media card.

<sup>3</sup> A Secure Digital (SD) media is a small, high-capacity data storage media card.

<sup>4</sup> An SD/MMC adapter is sold separately. This adapter is not intended for use with standard sized SD or MMC cards.

<sup>5</sup> Certain VAIO computers are not equipped with a floppy disk drive. You can purchase a floppy disk drive separately. See the online specifications sheet for more information about your computer's hardware configuration.

# Support Options

Sony provides several options to help solve common problems or to locate support for your VAIO® computer. This section describes all available resources and offers suggestions on how to access this information for maximum results.

- | [Immediate Help and Support](#)
- | [Software Help and Support](#)
- | [Resources for Additional Help and Support](#)

## Immediate Help and Support

You can locate helpful information immediately by consulting your hard copy guides and supplements, or by accessing the online Computer User Guide and the individual software Help files.

Your computer is supplied with these support options:

- | **VAIO® Computer Quick Start** — The Quick Start contains information on how to set up your computer quickly and easily. You can find instructions on how to plan an ergonomic work space, connect power cords, cables and peripheral devices, and register your computer with Sony®. The Quick Start can also provide troubleshooting support, if problems occur.
- | **VAIO® Computer User Guide** — The online User Guide provides information about configuring, maintaining, and upgrading your computer. This support resource offers a variety of available topics, enabling you to quickly view specific information using context-sensitive search features. To access the online guide:
  1. Click **Start** in the Windows® taskbar, then click **Help and Support**.
  2. From the **VAIO Help And Support Center** menu, click **VAIO User Guide**.
- | **Specifications** — The online specifications sheet describes the hardware and software configuration of your VAIO computer. To view this online information go to <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport>.
- | **Preinstalled software Help files** — Each preinstalled software program provides online Help within the software, that describes the software's features. In these Help files, you can find tutorials that teach you to use the software and locate troubleshooting support, should problems occur. To access software Help files:
  1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar and point to **All Programs**. A submenu appears, listing all preinstalled software programs.
  2. Click the desired software program.<sup>1</sup> The software's main window appears.
  3. From the menu bar, click **Help**. The **Help** file appears.
- | **VAIO Software** — Provides specific information on preinstalled software on your computer.

To access this online software information

1. Click **Start** in the Windows taskbar.
2. Click **Welcome to VAIO life**.

<sup>1</sup> You can locate the online Help for Sony® software programs by pointing to the individual software program's icon and selecting Help from the submenu.

## Software Help and Support

Support information for the preinstalled software on your system is located in this section. Sony software support is free of charge for 90 days after the original date of purchase.

 Your computer may not be supplied with all of the software discussed in this section, depending on the computer purchased. To view information about the specific software preinstalled on your computer, see the software program's online Help.

Adobe® Photoshop® Elements, Photoshop® Album, Reader®

Adobe Systems, Inc.

Web site	<a href="http://www.adobe.com">http://www.adobe.com</a>
telephone	800-685-3652
hours	M - F, 6 AM - 5 PM PST

America Online® (Broadband or Dial-Up)

America Online, Inc.

Web site	<a href="http://www.aol.com">http://www.aol.com</a>
----------	---

Click to DVD™

Sony Electronics Inc.

At the touch of a button, Click to DVD software allows you to automatically burn DVDs from a digital video device. Create DVDs by capturing video content straight from a digital video (DV) device or by importing video from stored files — and you can also edit the video if desired. Create DVD photo albums and slide shows with picture files or by importing pictures from a digital still camera. What's more, you can easily give a professional look to your DVDs by adding chapter menus, backgrounds, and menu screens. You're only a few clicks away from your own DVDs!

Web site	<a href="http://www.sony.com/pcsupport">http://www.sony.com/pcsupport</a>
telephone	888-4-SONY-PC (888-476-6972)
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

CLIÉ Converter

Sony Electronics Inc.

CLIÉ Converter software is a plug-in software program that converts Giga Pocket® Video Capsules into Movie Player format for playback on your Sony® CLIÉ™ handheld. After converting your Video Capsules, you can use CLIÉ Converter software to transfer them to Memory Stick® media or to save them to your hard disk drive for transfer to your CLIÉ handheld during your next HotSync® operation.

Web site	<a href="http://www.sony.com/pcsupport">http://www.sony.com/pcsupport</a>
telephone	888-4-SONY-PC (888-476-6972)
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

## Drag'n Drop CD+DVD

Sonic Solutions

Drag'n Drop CD+DVD software is designed to make CD and DVD creation simple. You can create your own audio or data CDs and data DVDs. These discs can be read in most audio CD players or personal computers. With Drag'n Drop CD+DVD software, you can also back up CDs.

Web site	<a href="http://support.sonic.com">http://support.sonic.com</a>
----------	---

## DVgate Plus™

Sony Electronics Inc.

Connect a compatible digital video camera to your computer's i.LINK® port and capture video clips and still images. Edit clips from your video, add new clips, and combine clips into new movie segments. Save your movies back to your digital video camera or in a variety of popular file formats.

Web site	<a href="http://www.sony.com/pcsupport">http://www.sony.com/pcsupport</a>
telephone	888-4-SONY-PC (888-476-6972)
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

## Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder

Sony Electronics Inc.

Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder is a unique set of hardware and software components that provide you with excellent TV viewing, recording, and playback experiences. You can watch and record your favorite TV programs from your computer and play your Video Capsules on compatible computers. Giga Pocket® Personal Video Recorder enables your computer, TV, VCR, and other video player devices to work in harmony.

Web site	<a href="http://www.sony.com/pcsupport">http://www.sony.com/pcsupport</a>
telephone	888-4-SONY-PC (888-476-6972)
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

## Microsoft® Internet Explorer

Microsoft Corp.

Internet Explorer offers dramatic performance, reliability, and usability improvements making it the

fastest, easiest and most cost-effective Web browser for people to use, manage and support. Whether you use the Web to read e-mail, news or sports reports, shop online, listen to music or play videos, or share your images and photos with friends family or work colleagues, IE 6 makes it easy, exciting and fun.

Web site	<a href="http://www.support.microsoft.com">http://www.support.microsoft.com</a>
----------	---

Microsoft® Windows® Movie Maker 2

Microsoft Corp.

Windows Movie Maker 2 makes home movies amazingly fun. With Movie Maker 2 you can create, edit and share your home movies right on your PC. Build your movie with a few simple drag-and-drops. Delete bad shots and include only the best scenes. Add special effects, music and narration. Then share your movie via the Web, e-mail, on your PC, CD, or even DVD. You can also save your edited movie back to the DV tape in your camera to play on a TV or even on the camera itself.

Web site	<a href="http://www.support.microsoft.com">http://www.support.microsoft.com</a>
----------	---

Microsoft® Windows Media® Player

Microsoft Corp.

Using one of the premiere video and music playback software programs, you can better enjoy listening and watching many different kinds of media. Other great features include, instant-on playback, Mini-player mode, Intelligent Streaming technology, 5.1-channel surround sound audio codec, and built-in Smart Jukebox features.

Web site	<a href="http://www.support.microsoft.com">http://www.support.microsoft.com</a>
----------	---

Microsoft® Works

Microsoft Corp.

Works lets you quickly and easily create high-quality, fun documents. Works provides the core tools you need to create documents, manage lists and schedules, create reports and budgets and organize information from many sources. Works includes Word Processor, Works Database, Works Spreadsheet, Works Portfolio, and Works Calendar.

Web site	<a href="http://www.support.microsoft.com">http://www.support.microsoft.com</a>
----------	---

MoodLogic

MoodLogic, Inc.

MoodLogic is the world's largest descriptive database of song information. The information is provided from music lovers like you. MoodLogic allows you to browse the songs by artist and genre, narrow your selections by tempo or year, save your favorite music play list and transfer it to a portable player.

Web site	<a href="http://www.moodlogic.com/support">http://www.moodlogic.com/support</a>
e-mail	<a href="mailto:help@moodlogic.com">help@moodlogic.com</a>

Norton Internet Security™

Symantec Corp.

Symantec's Norton Internet Security™ software provides essential protection from viruses, hackers, and privacy threats. This easy-to-use, integrated suite includes full versions of Norton AntiVirus® and Norton™ Personal Firewall software to defend your PC against the most common Internet dangers. Norton Internet Security also includes Norton Spam Alert, which helps you detect and filter unwanted e-mail. Norton Parental Control keeps your children safe by letting you block objectionable Web sites and set up separate Internet access privileges for each member of your household. Automatic downloads keep Norton Internet Security software updated against new security threats. This is a trial version of the Norton Internet Security software.

Web site	<a href="http://www.symantec.com/techsupp">http://www.symantec.com/techsupp</a>
----------	---

PictureGear Studio™

Sony Electronics Inc.

PictureGear Studio still image management software displays still images from your hard drive or a Sony digital still camera. The still images appear in a convenient light-table format so that you can easily view the contents of an entire folder, create your own photo albums and make prints.

Web site	<a href="http://www.sony.com/pcsupport">http://www.sony.com/pcsupport</a>
telephone	888-4-SONY-PC (888-476-6972)
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

Quicken® New User Edition

Intuit Inc.

Quicken software is a fast, easy way to organize your finances. Quicken software works just like your checkbook, so it's easy to learn and use. You can even pay your bills online. Quicken software manages all of your finances, bank accounts, credit cards, investments, and loans. (Users of earlier versions of Quicken software must upgrade for a fee.) Upgrade possible to Quicken® Deluxe, and other versions.

Web site	<a href="http://www.intuit.com/support">http://www.intuit.com/support</a>
telephone	900-555-4932; 800-644-3193 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Intuit Inc. Software: Support from 900-555-4932 is fee-based. Support from 800-644-3193 is automated and free of charge.

SonicStage™

Sony Electronics Inc.

The SonicStage software program gives you all the tools you need to manage music on your computer. SonicStage software sports high-quality digital audio storage, a music visualizer, a sleek player skin design, audio CD burning capability (on computer models that include a CD recording device), and a parametric equalizer for fine-tuning audio playback.

Web site	<a href="http://www.sony.com/pcsupport">http://www.sony.com/pcsupport</a>
telephone	888-4-SONY-PC (888-476-6972)
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

SonicStage™ Mastering Studio

Sony Electronics Inc.

Use SonicStage™ Mastering Studio software to record songs from analog records or cassette tapes into your computer, and output them to CD-R or CD-RW discs, or audio files in WAV format.

Web site	<a href="http://www.sony.com/pcsupport">http://www.sony.com/pcsupport</a>
telephone	888-4-SONY-PC (888-476-6972)
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

Sony® VAIO® Product Registration

Sony Electronics Inc.

VAIO Product Registration is an integrated registration software program for both Sony Electronics Inc. and Microsoft Corporation. By registering with Sony, you enable Sony to notify you of software and hardware issues that may affect your user experience. Microsoft directs the data to Sony Electronics Inc. Sony uses the registration data for warranty and product support purposes and the analysis of customer feedback on Sony computer features.

Web site	<a href="http://www.sony.com/pcsupport">http://www.sony.com/pcsupport</a>
telephone	888-4-SONY-PC (888-476-6972)
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

VAIO Action Setup

Sony Electronics Inc.

VAIO Action Setup manages the settings for your computer's shortcut keys.

Web site	<a href="http://www.sony.com/pcsupport">http://www.sony.com/pcsupport</a>
telephone	888-4-SONY-PC (888-476-6972)
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

## VAIO Media™

### Sony Electronics Inc.

VAIO Media™ software brings multimedia to your network, enabling you to share music, video, and still image files between your VAIO® computers. You can set up one or more computers as "media servers," which store your multimedia files and make them available to other VAIO computers on your wired or wireless network.

Web site	<a href="http://www.sony.com/pcsupport">http://www.sony.com/pcsupport</a>
telephone	888-4-SONY-PC (888-476-6972)
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

## VAIO Music Services

### Sony Electronics Inc.

Download music from the web, create your own albums, or have CDs sent straight to your house with VAIO Music Services. The ultimate place on the Web for music lovers to find out information about their favorite artist and get all of the latest music news.

Web site	<a href="http://www.sony.com/pcsupport">http://www.sony.com/pcsupport</a>
telephone	888-4-SONY-PC (888-476-6972)
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

## VAIO Update

### Sony Electronics Inc.

The VAIO Update utility helps keep your VAIO® computer updated by checking the Sony Online Support Web site for important software updates and information for your specific computer model.

Web site	<a href="http://www.sony.com/pcsupport">http://www.sony.com/pcsupport</a>
telephone	888-4-SONY-PC (888-476-6972)
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

## WinDVD® for VAIO®

### InterVideo, Inc.

WinDVD software serves as a simple-to-use DVD player that offers all the features you would expect to find in a standard consumer DVD player, including advanced display and navigation features such as zoom, pan, bookmark, and time search.

Web site	<a href="http://www.intervideo.com/jsp/Support.jsp">http://www.intervideo.com/jsp/Support.jsp</a>

## Resources for Additional Help and Support

If the information provided with your VAIO® computer does not offer an immediate solution, or you would like to get direct support, try these additional help and support resources.

### Sony Online Support Web site

Online help and support are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, when you visit the Sony Online Support Web site. You can access the Web site at <http://www.sony.com/pcsupport>.

The Sony Online Support Web site provides:

- | Information about your specific model computer, such as
  - | hardware and software specifications.
  - | upgrade and maintenance procedures<sup>1</sup>.
  - | safety and legal information.
  - | quick solutions to common problems.
- | An automated tutorial library that contains interactive, easy-to-understand lessons on using your computer's hardware and software features.
- | Links that enable you to:
  - | quickly find the nearest Sony service center locations.
  - | arrange for repairs or check repair status.
  - | review warranty information.
  - | e-mail your question or comments to the Sony Customer Information Services Center.
  - | check pricing and availability for products, accessories and parts, as well as purchase online.
  - | access the Sony Solutions Knowledge Base, a database that contains answers to many frequently asked questions.

### Sony Customer Information Services Center

If other support options do not resolve your issue, you can contact a Sony Support representative directly.

Before making a call to the Sony Customer Information Services Center, have this basic information readily available.

1. VAIO® computer system type.
2. Model number.
3. Serial number<sup>2</sup>.

Example:



4. Operating system.
5. Hardware feature or software program that has a problem. (See the online VAIO® Computer User Guide for the appropriate software technical support information.)
6. Brief description of the issue.

For VAIO® computers purchased in the U.S. and Canada, contact a Sony Support representative at 1-888-476-6972.

[1](#) Upgrade and maintenance information may not be available for all computer models.

[2](#) The serial number is located on the back panel of your computer. The serial number is on a white barcode label.